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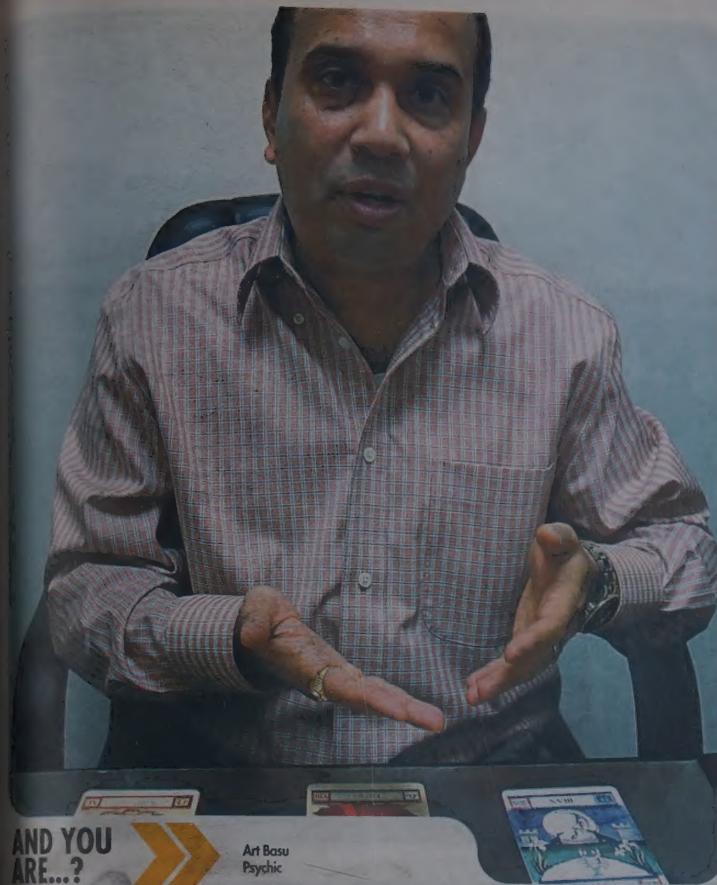
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**Art Basu**  
Psychic

## AND YOU ARE...?

### What is it you call yourself?

I am a psychics and astrologers. I call myself not only a psychic, but also a guide and friend. I use different tools like astrology, palm readings, tarot reading, and psychometric reading to [people].

### Where do you get your gift from?

I was born psychic. Palm reading, astrology I had to learn from my family, which comes from a line of astrologers from India. These are something anyone can learn, but you have to have a desire to help people and be very interested in others.

### What questions do you get asked most frequently?

What's interesting is I get clients from all

over the world, and I find their questions fall within common categories. Most are regarding career, relationships, health, money and kids. Careers and relationships are the two most common.

### What is the weirdest question you've been asked?

I don't really consider any question weird. People come to me from all walks of life, with a question that they can't ask anyone else but me. In my office they find a sanctuary where they can let their guard down and not be afraid.

### Are there a lot of fakes in the business?

Instead of worrying about who is genuine and fake, it's easier for the client to be a

genuine client, they will quickly know if the reader is a fake or not. Like in every business there are fakes, but if the client goes with sincerity you will find that the fake reader will not be able to help you.

### Have you ever been wrong?

I guess I would have to say yes, because no one is 100% right, but mostly because I can only predict what is most likely to happen. The individual still has to make the effort and the right choices with the knowledge that I provide them. If they make the right choices and efforts I find that I am always right, that my predictions always come true.

JEFFREY GREENIAUS



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JEFFREY GREENBAUM

TUESDAY, NOV 21 U of A students hold a mock funeral for affordable education, responding to the provincial decision to link tuition increases to the consumer price index earlier this month.

## ANYONE BUT TED

ON MONDAY, THE GLOBE AND MAIL LED OFF A STORY ON THE Conservative leadership vote by calling Ted Morton "an American-born social conservative who preaches against same-sex marriage [and] promotes privatized health care." A bit of left-wing rhetorical trickery? Probably. But it's also true. We're not endorsing any of the candidates in the leadership race (we endorse healthy change in Alberta's moribund one-party system), but if any of our readers happen to hold memberships in the Conservative party, then get out there next Saturday and, ahem, coughstophimcough, oh... excuse us.

## THE SOUND OF NO ONE SHOUTING

DO YOU REMEMBER THE COVER OF RAGE AGAINST THE MACHINE'S 1992 self-titled album, the one with the Vietnamese monk (Thich Quang Duc was his name) who'd set himself alight to protest Vietnam's abusive policies towards Buddhists? That image reflected an almost unimaginably intense level of protest, especially in contrast with three recent years of rather polite anti-war demonstrations. Well, imagine it. Malachi Ritscher committed suicide several weeks ago by setting himself on fire beside a Chicago highway in protest against the Iraq war before the American mid-term elections. The press coverage was minimal, which ultimately makes his death more a

protest against the ambivalence of North American society than the war overseas. While the fact that he felt the need for such a protest is troubling; that such a thing could go largely unnoticed is terrifying.

## NANNY MAYER

STEPHEN MANDEL, DON'T YOU HAVE MORE IMPORTANT THINGS to discuss with the province than to whine about how late the Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission allows liquor stores to stay open? Mayor Mom wants the stores to close at 11 pm instead of 2 am, with an eye to keeping all those wicked knife-wielding teens off the streets. Mayor Mandel, instead of pandering to our hype-heavy media with high-profile but ultimately meaningless initiatives like this, let's take a stand with the big boys and demand proper funding for programs that might really keep kids off the streets.

## SIT IN THE BACK AND SHUT UP

SPEAKING OF VIOLENT DRUNKS... SINCE WHYTE AVE. IS THE HEART of Edmonton's nightlife, it's also the heart of Edmonton's drunken yob scene when the bars shut down at night. And everyone knows, drunken yobs like to fight (especially if you look at their girlfriends cockeyed). How about getting some

more cabs on the street to ferry out the hooligans quick-like? Edmonton's taxi licence cap, which determines the maximum number of cabs that are allowed to operate in the city, has been set at 1,185 since 1995, despite the city's growth by 150,000 people in the same time. So next time you get a busy signal from every cab company in town, you'll know why.



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"IF I WANTED TO LIVE IN ALABAMA INSTEAD OF ALBERTA, I WOULD MOVE TO ALABAMA."

- Edmonton Castledowns MLA Thomas Lukaszuk on the prospect of Ted Morton becoming premier of Alberta

# MUST WE BUST?

## Five Ideas For Preventing The Next Economic Downturn

Story Angela Brunschat

**N**ew residents pouring into the province from across the country. "For Hire" signs posted on every store front and provincial coffers overflowing with oil cash—suddenly Alberta is the most popular kid in Confederation. Everyone wants to come over and swim in the rich kid's pool.

But we've been here before and the popularity doesn't last. If oil prices tumble, this one-industry province, ostentatiously reliant on its "hard work" and financial savvy, won't be feeling so smart.

We don't even have to look that far back for gruesome tales of what happens when the bottom falls out of the oil economy. In the early 1980s, Edmonton residents handed over the keys to their homes—bought when the sky was the limit—because they had no hope of paying their inflated mortgages. The city was caught so unprepared they didn't even have layoff agreements with municipal staff. Head offices pulled out of Alberta's cities. Residents left for greener pastures.

Oh yes: we've endured the painful fall from prosperity before.

But does it have to be that way? Are we truly at the mercy of fluctuating oil prices, doomed to ride the steepest of financial roller coasters in perpetuity?

Kyle Kasawski doesn't think so. He thinks he knows one way that we can tune our economic engine so that it runs smoothly in hot times and cold.

Herewith, five ways to tame our manic oil-based economy.

### AltEnergy

#### 1. Pay a premium for solar and wind energy

Boom or bust, Kyle Kasawski loves Alberta. So much so that he decided to stay here, in the province of his birth, to found ETI Solar, an alternative energy engineering firm, de-

spite better business opportunities in Ontario.

But he's not simply sentimental, too infatuated with the mountains, wide-open prairies, and a growing family to leave for greener pastures. He and co-founder Steve Wu be sharp businessmen with a four-year-old company making \$10 million a year.

Kasawski thinks Alberta can buffer it's financial volatility by becoming the world leader in alternative energies.

"We are already known as being experts in energy and power, so it would be a natural step to diversify the sources of energy that we are experts in," he says. The 32-year-old shakes his head at the government, tying so much of the province's economic future to the oil sands. "The government is just afraid to lead," he says.

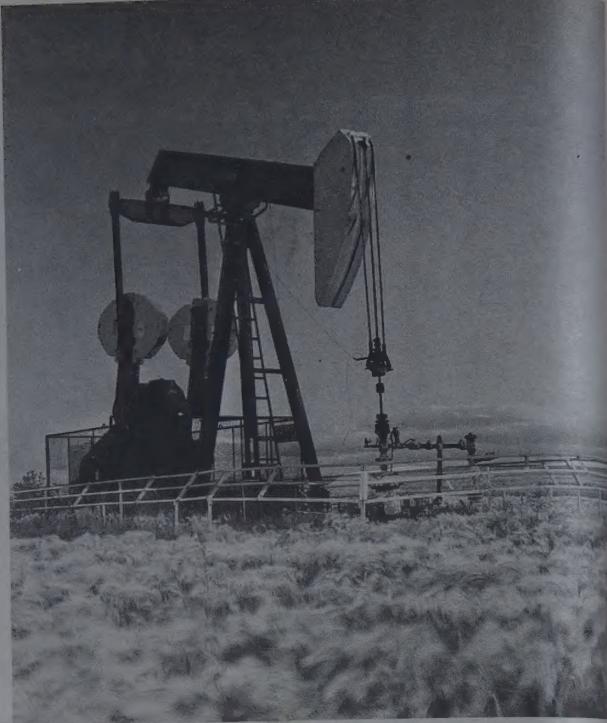
While the Alberta government encourages traditional oil and gas development with low taxes and royalties, Ontario pays a premium for alternative energy. Legislation there guarantees solar or wind energy producers are paid more than gas and coal producers. Because solar or wind power is combined with cheaper forms of energy, the increase is not passed on to customers in a noticeable way.

And the province could develop a strong alternative energy market very quickly, if they made it a priority, he says. Just look at Germany. They began their alternative energy program only 10 years ago and now they have the largest market for solar power in the world. As a result, they've built expertise in alternative energy manufacturing and management. With Alberta's established energy sector and as many sunny days as Miami, we could do even better.

### Knowledge Economy

#### 2. Invest in universities

While most Albertans are intimately familiar with the ups and downs of the oil-patch economy, few discuss plans for an economic downturn until the bubble has burst, says



Todd Hirsch, chief economist for the Canada West Foundation. He wants the provincial government to invest in research centres based in post-secondary institutions. Not only would this diversify the economy, it would also keep expertise in the province.

For example, a young person working for an oil company in the research department could easily move into a position at the University of Alberta researching renewable resources. Otherwise, we can expect an out-of-province exodus.

Some might consider that a blessing—at least it'd be easier for people to find an apartment here—but the province's tax-base would be devastated, Hirsch says. "You are going to lose people in their prime tax-paying years. You are going to lose the most employable and brightest people because those are the ones who are going to be able to take their skills and their education and go anywhere and work," Hirsch says. Creating jobs in research would keep both their brains and their wallets in Alberta.

Part of Hirsch's plan would include drawing people from all over the world, setting the province up as a centre for research in many areas. However, the province would have to produce Harvard level excellence, he says. That requires big bucks and decades of planning to establish.

### The Norwegian Advantage

#### 3. Invest natural resource revenue in the Heritage Fund

Norway has the right idea when it comes to investing for the future, says Ricardo Acuna, executive director of the Parkland Institute. They started investing 100 per cent of their oil revenue in the Petroleum Fund in 1990. The fund now boasts roughly \$300 billion. The country only spends four per cent of the interest each year. If Norway ran out of oil tomorrow, they'd still have that revenue, whereas

Alberta would be left foundering, Acuna says. "We have an opportunity to invest in a different type of future," he says. "Let's invest that money so that we can benefit from the oil in the ground today for generations and generations to come."

Alberta's Heritage Fund has served a similar if more limited, function since 1976. During the last recession, the provincial government used the fund for large projects such as the Walter C. Mackenzie Health Services Centre here in Edmonton. The fund is currently worth over \$15 billion.

But the province stopped saving directly from resource revenues in 1987, a policy Edmonton-Rutherford MLA and finance critic Rick Miller wants re-instated. The Liberal's plan would see 30 per cent of all the revenue from non-renewable resources invested in the Heritage Fund. He projects that within 15 years the fund would reach \$120 billion dollars, which would generate enough cash to fill any funding gap now covered by oil and gas revenue. By 2025, the province would be making more money from investments in the Heritage Fund than we currently gain from oil and gas revenues.

Following Norway's lead and investing 100 per cent of Alberta's oil revenue would require tax hikes to balance the budget, says Miller, a move he contends wouldn't help anyone.

But Scott Hennig, Alberta director of the Canadian Taxpayers Federation, says higher taxes aren't necessary. He wants 50 per cent of oil revenue invested in the Heritage Fund and taxes to remain level. But that would require restricting government spending to costs incurred by inflation and population growth.

Increased taxes don't concern Acuna, who says taxes should cover all government spending. Not only are taxes relatively stable, today's growing population means they are actually expanding, he says.



**"What we are doing right now is encouraging a bust. We are investing so much money in the oil sands and working so hard to get as much development happening up there as possible, that we are going to literally burn our economy out."**

—Ricardo Acuna, executive director of the Parkland Institute.

#### Top The Breaks 4. Slow down development of the oil sands

The provincial government must slow-down development in the oil sands, says Acuna.

"What we are doing right now is encouraging a bust. We are investing so much money in the oil sands and working so hard to get as much development happening up there as possible, that we are going to literally burn our economy out," he says, pointing to the high cost of infrastructure, rising municipal budgets and chronic staff shortages as symptoms of an over-heated economy.

But Hennig says the provincial government simply doesn't have an "easy lever" for controlling develop-

ment and contends the market is already self-regulating. He says resource and personnel shortages have already stalled some business ventures.

#### City State

##### 5. Bring different kinds of businesses into Edmonton

While many economic decisions are provincial responsibilities, Acuna wants leadership from the municipal government. Specifically, he wants the city to seek out businesses that are not connected to the oil sands, and therefore less vulnerable to changes in oil prices.

"We need our political leaders to stop cheerleading about this amazing economy we are in and the tremendous growth we are experiencing and start being realistic about some of the challenges we are going to be facing in as little as five years."

Councillor Karen Leibovici points to Mayor Stephen Mandel's recent trip to China, aimed at sharing Edmonton's environmental management knowledge, and the Edmonton Economic Development Corporation as proof of the city's work towards diversification.

She also cites council's stabilization fund, a rainy-day savings account used for unexpected expenses, as a step in the right direction. She admits the city doesn't have an overall plan, but she contends the city is much more prepared than they were last time. During the 1980s bust she was working in the city's personnel department and witnessed massive layoffs.

"The economy was going very strong and nobody thought there would be any change," she says, and then everything collapsed "almost overnight." She recalls the city didn't even have agreements with the unions regarding layoffs. The city had to completely restructure itself. Anyone who lived through that thinks and plans for the next downward spiral, she says.

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# opinion

## Help Harper be Harper

Don't screw up his minority government

JMPTHING'S HAPPENED TO STEPHEN Harper? Once universally described as a shy, attention-ducking, behind-the-scenes-working policy wonk, his appetite for power has forced him from the shadows and transformed him into one of the biggest attention-bugs in the nation.

The news came fast and furious last week—the weather turned cold, half the population of Edmonton got laid off in a 4-day period, and spectre of a new leader for the Progressive Conservative Party of Alberta loomed, complete with a cameo appearance from the ghost of Ralph Klein—but for every headline that wasn't about him, Harper had one that was. After warming up with an announcement of \$40 million dollars unworked for Third World microfinance programs, there was his surprise resolution about Quebec being a nation within a nation, and then an economic update, complete with

new jargon to learn, like “net debt-free.”

One gets the impression that Prime Minister is a very busy man. What's he busy at? Trying to convince Canadians that what they real-

ment will do, its proponents enthuse, is allow for a streamlined lawmaking process. Because what's most needed in the crafting of good legislation is more speed and fewer inputs, eh?

Oh, they'll gripe and gripe about the inefficiencies of a minority parliament, but they can just quit with that. Not only have the last two minority Canadian governments functioned exactly as they should, allowing for the work to get done, with some oversight, but they've also delivered on many of the elements that make for good drama—antagonistic relationships, the rising tension as the inevitable moment approaches, plot twists—seriously, what's not to like?

With his little tiff with the Ottawa Press Gallery, Stephen Harper's delivered on the drama, but even with his obvious distaste for negotiations and consensus-building, he's

also put the lie to the terrible things said about minority governments by their detractors

Just as any elector who got a Conservative MP in the last election that was not their personal choice should be reasonably content that their perspective has been considered in this government, Harper should be proud of himself for all he's gotten done, given the circumstances. He's made efficient use of his party's time in power.

But, it should be asked again, just because he's done well with his minority government, how does that give him the right to a majority government next time around? What makes a majority government a good idea? What is desirable about a government that only has to consult with their own supporters before they enact laws or change government policy?

Oh yes, and more specifically,

Harper's been keeping busy, but if you don't happen to see eye to eye with the guy on anything in the world, then you probably wouldn't want to see much of his work made into the law of the land.

His changes to the criminal code are getting rewritten with the other parties' help. Same goes for his approach to global warming and the environment and also, surprisingly enough, given that it was the main plank in his election platform, his sadly underwhelming try at government transparency and accountability.

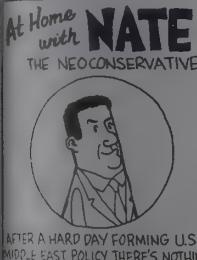
In the case of big matters like foreign policy and little ones like the intangibles that come as a privilege of power—the right to withdraw funding from programs you dislike, for example—you needn't look much further than the headlines to see why Stephen Harper shouldn't be written a blank cheque.

## CRAIG ELLIOT SLO-BLOG

I want to do is give him a majority government.

Yes, well, maybe you can see the value of a majority government to a politician, but what's a majority ever done for us voters? Does it make an effort to seek a general consensus on an issue? Is it sure to allow everyone an opportunity to contribute? Does it allow for a plurality of Canadian perspectives to be reflected in our governance? The answers are no, no and no, but what a majority govern-

### TOM THE DANCING DOG



AFTER A HARD DAY FORMING U.S. MIDDLE EAST POLICY, THERE'S NOTHING LIKE A RELAXING EVENING AT HOME.



HONEY, I'M HOME! WHAT A DAY! THEY JUST DON'T GET IT!

NATE, YOU'RE IN THE WRONG HOUSE AGAIN! YOU LIVE NEXT DOOR!



THIS IS ON TOO LOW, DEAR. I'M TURNING THE HEAT UP TO HIGH

JOHN! NATE IS BACK! COME QUICK!!

BY RUBEN BOLLING

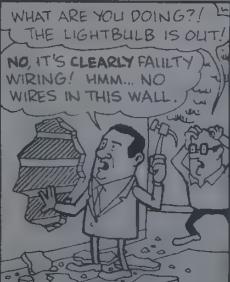
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MY RICE! IT'S BURNING!!

NONSENSE! NOW, THIS LIGHT IS OUT... HAND ME A HAMMER.

OH, HERE'S ONE!



WHAT ARE YOU DOING?! THE LIGHTBULB IS OUT!

NO, IT'S CLEARLY FAULTY WIRING! HMM... NO WIRES IN THIS WALL.



JOHN! THE KITCHEN CURTAINS ARE ON FIRE!!

YOU'RE SO WRONG! THAT'S NO FIRE! IT'S A BROKEN BARBECUE!!

NATE! YOU CREATED A DISASTER!

DOESN'T SURPRISE ME, WITH THAT DEFEATIST ATTITUDE OF YOURS!

WHAT DO YOU SAY TO PEOPLE WHO JUST DON'T GET IT?

YOU'RE DEMONSTRABLY, HORRIBLY WRONG! ABOUT EVERYTHING! ALWAYS!



YOU'RE STILL HERE?! LEAVE!!

THERE'S TOO MUCH AT STAKE! COME HERE, SON. I'VE GOT A JOB FOR YOU!

GAS

CONTINUED & CONTINUED...

SIGH!

## RANT ACID

### CARNAGE CHAMELEON

It appears our city has sunk down to such a low level of humanity that I get the wanly eye from office diphit when I ask, "Why hasn't someone put up a mobile curtain around that?" after coming onto Whyte Ave after a stabbing and noticing the brutal pile of carnage in the middle of the fucking street. I realize your public relations of late consist of trying to explain your way out of whaling on a moronic drunk broad during the playoffs and you're "busy" and all, but come on—use your heads. It's bad enough the culture of cowardice has made it seem "gangsta" to use weapons in fights more so than ever before, can you spare the passersby and kids from seeing it?

PS. Use your fists, you pussies.

BY RANT ACID

Rant acid, SEE Magazine, 200-10275 Jasper Ave., Edmonton, T5J 1X8, [rantacid@see.greatwest.ca](http://rantacid@see.greatwest.ca) • Fax: 432-1102

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# on stage



"Our class was one of the ones that mostly stayed here in Edmonton to make our careers. A lot just left, but we made a go of it."

ANNETTE LOISELLE

rehearsal process with the company of veterans and new cast members labouring to recreate the excitement of the production each year. According to Loiselle, there's no cynicism onstage either, even after seven productions of the show. "I didn't expect to come in and find cynicism, but I expected that the people who had done it would be 'Yup, we know what we're doing.' There's none of that. It's phenomenal to me that it's not just doing a show again. It's very much living and breathing."

The common goal also helps keep things in line as well. "On the first day of rehearsal," says Loiselle, "it was such an incredible number of people in the same room working on this production. Everyone is just full of love with the production."

The fellowship extends into the Edmonton community at large, having people back year after year. Brumlik says, "The show, he says, is good, but more importantly, it taps into a common human need. "It stands apart from everything else. Whether you're part of the production or in the audience it's a really unique journey over the course of an evening. It's really quite profound." The proof, he says, is the willingness with which the audience donates money to the Edmonton Food Bank after each performance.

"To be out there after the show in the lobby and see a 15 year old boy give his own money, or to see people so moved, you realize that this production does have an impact."

As a longtime audience member, Loiselle can attest to the power of *A Christmas Carol*. "It's that moment at the top of the second act where the whole theatre starts singing 'O Come All Ye Faithful,' the shivers start up my spine and that makes me cry every year. Watching the rehearsals, I also think of the Christmas morning scene where Scrooge wakes up and decides to change. Watching him interact with all the people in his life, and that line 'Twas baby' is just beautiful."

In short, *A Christmas Carol* is a celebration of being human and, says Brumlik, a reminder of the need to stay in contact with your past—which is why he's so quietly thrilled to play again with all his pals. "It's amazing to realize when you work with people who've been your friends for a long time, how important those people are. It's very nice to change or replace those 20-year friendships. Those are the things that are of irreplaceable value."

EVA MARIE CLARK

## Another year, another Carol

Old friends find new inspiration in a holiday standard

### A CHRISTMAS CAROL

By Tom Wood (based on the story by Charles Dickens). Directed by Bob Baker. Starring Julian Arnold, April Bangen, Sheldon Bergstrom, Kevin Corey, Elijah Johnson, Annette Loiselle, Lany Yachimec, Tom Wood. Until Dec. 23, 7:30 pm, 1:30 matinees Saturday, Sundays. MacLab Theatre, Citadel Theatre (9828-101A Ave.) Tickets: \$55 - \$80, available at 425-1820 / [citadeltheatre.com](http://citadeltheatre.com)

"A FRIEND IS A GIFT YOU GIVE yourself," or so Robert Louis Stevenson once wrote. The Scottish author and poet would be gratified to see his aphorism come to life at the Citadel. In this season of gifts and giving, The Citadel's annual production of *A Christmas Carol* brings together a cadre of old friends, headed up by assistant director Geoffrey Brumlik and new cast member

### Annette Loiselle.

Brumlik and Loiselle have known each other for 20 years, since they met in the University of Alberta's BFA Acting program, and they aren't the only ones from that class associated with this production.

"It's a bit like old home week," says Loiselle. "In the rehearsal hall one day there was Geoff, James Macdonald, Jan Alexandra Smith, Julian

Arnold and myself and we were all in the same class. I looked around and thought, 'who'd have thought 20 years ago we'd all be in this room together wearing different hats. It was a neat feeling.'

It's especially neat to consider how the cadre of critically acclaimed artists has cumulatively affected the theatre in Edmonton with the establishment of the Free Will Players and River City Shakespeare Festival back in 1989, not to mention many memorable performances, and directorships over the years. "Part of creating the Free Will Players was us wanting to work together and stay together," says Brumlik, who served as the company's artistic director for a few years. The festival kept the graduate actors in Edmonton, something of which Loiselle is proud. "I always find myself so proud of our class. Our class was one of the ones that mostly stayed here in Edmonton to make our careers. A lot just left, but we made a go of it. If you'd asked me then if the festival would still be around nearly 20 years later, I wouldn't have been able to say yes, but I knew I'd still be here."

Looking around the rehearsal hall each day, as this seventh production of *A Christmas Carol* takes shape, and seeing the faces of old friends is an "incredible experience" for Brumlik. "It's nice to be reminded that we've shared that much of our professional lives together. It means you are working with people who subscribe to the same beliefs. We've affected each other professionally—egged each other on."

The joy of friendship enlivens the

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THEATRE 100



## Who was Laurier Picard?

Theatre 100 explores Alberta scene past and present

IT'S ONE OF THOSE QUESTIONS THAT'S plagued at me since graduation. The name Laurier Picard appeared emblazoned upon the plaque that I, a budding theatrical maven, received for drama at Archbishop Macdonald High School, (or Mac). After since graduation, I wondered, who was this man? Why was I awarded a prize in his honour? To my delight, the same name appeared above the photograph of a most distinguished gentleman in the

like Alphonse Hervieux in early 20th century Edmonton, the roots go very deep. Who knew that Lethbridge, thanks to Ernest Stendale Bennett, has a performance history reaching back to the 1920s? Or that Sukumar Nayar, a teacher at Grande Prairie Regional College, "made theatre happen in Grande Prairie" in the '60s? Educators, benefactors, advocates, true amateurs, established fertile ground that would enable future

**Educators, benefactors, advocates, and true amateurs established fertile ground that would enable future generations to spread their talent.**

Alberta Playwrights' Network publication *Theatre 100*, a compendium of biographies chronicling the lives and contributions of 100 theatre practitioners and innovators who have shaped Alberta's cultural identity since its entry into Confederation little more than a century ago.

There are many familiar names in the book—Betty Mitchell, Elizabeth Swarting Haynes, Stewart Lemoine, Claude Massing, Stephen Headley, Sharon Pollock, Joseph H. Shostor, Bob Baker, Tom Wood—to name a few.

What's startling, leafing through and reading the biographies by James DeFelice, Frank Glenfield, Jove Doolittle and Grant Reddick, is the realization that thanks to advocates like Lydia Case Winters in the Calgary of 1893, or actor/directors

generations to spread their talent across the country and the world.

The book is an interesting document, the biographies succinct—one can easily dip into the book on a coffee break, or on the bus and come away refreshed with some tidbits with which to entertain and enlighten fellow mavens.

Speaking of which, Laurier Picard was part of the inauguration of Théâtre français d'Edmonton in the 1930s, participated as a singer/actor and director in more than 40 productions with Edmonton Civic Opera, and performed with Joe Shostor in a celebrated production of *The Man Who Came to Dinner*. He was also drama teacher and principal at Mac. Not bad footsteps in which to follow.

EVA MARIE CLARKE



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## WISH FOR A BETTER YEAR

(L-R) Meg (Amanda Lisman), Lenny (Adyva Soudack), and Babe (Tracy Leigh Campbell) in a rare moment of familial bliss.

JEFFREY GREENBAUM

## All unhappy families

Studio Theatre takes a trip to dysfunction junction

**CRIMES OF THE HEART**

By Beth Henley. Directed by Kim McCaw. Starring Tracy Leigh Campbell, Adyva Soudack, Amanda Lisman, Kate Bateman, Darren Dolynski, Ben McIvor. Until Dec 9, 8 pm, Timms Center for the Arts (87 Ave. & 112 St.) Tickets \$8 - \$20, available at [www.ttcnthesquare.ca](http://www.ttcnthesquare.ca) or 420-1757

EVERYBODY HAS FAMILY. EVEN THOSE OF US WHO DON'T

"Even if you have no family, you still have a relationship to [the idea of family]," says Kim McCaw, the director of Studio Theatre's upcoming show *Crimes of the Heart*, a 1981 Pulitzer Prize winning play by Beth Henley that focuses on everything familial. "I think people are interested in other families. The ways in which other families are the same as your own or the ways they are dif-

ferent. And I think it is a source of endless fascination."

Audiences will be able to measure their own relatives along side that of the McGrath family, when they pull up a chair around the kitchen table inside their Mississippi home.

The year is 1974, and the family has just congregated at their old Granddaddy's house after a rash of flawed choices and botched fortunes.

The youngest of the family's three sisters, Babe (Tracy Leigh Campbell), has shot and killed her husband.

Compounding the brood's difficulties, Lenny (Adyva Soudack) is about to turn 30, a birthday that she dreads celebrating alone and without a man.

The country music career of Meg (Amanda Lisman) isn't going any-

where. And, Chick (Kate Bateman) is constantly preoccupied by her own children, whose misguided curiosity always produces trouble.

**"You find yourself laughing—you don't know quite why you're laughing, but it makes you feel a lot better about being a human being."**

aged goods, McCaw enjoys being in their world.

"I really like spending time with those three sisters. There are other

people in the play but really it is the story of the three sisters."

But the fictional family isn't the only one on stage. The family dynamics in performance are mirrored off-stage, in the family made up of the BFA acting students.

"An acting class lives, breathes,

**CRIMES OF THE HEART DIRECTOR KIM MCCAW**

The dysfunctional extremes of those families may be a little beyond what most of us are used to, but still, we can all relate. And for those of us in the audience, just think: maybe our families aren't so bad after all.

SARAH HOYLE

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sweats, and eats together for three intense years," McCaw says. "There is an aspect of family that happens there—a sort of shorthand that one has in a family. You don't even need to talk about some things, you just know how the other person is going to react. Just a look between you communicates huge amounts because you know each other so well."

McCaw explains that by this production hits the stage the students have seen it all from one another, from the lovely to the obnoxious.

Having this established support system, McCaw and the students can focus on other things.

"It's set in Mississippi, so there are Mississippi accents. And the other thing is the challenge of all the stuff. There are little kinds of logistical challenges, technical kinds of challenges that are fun to figure out to do."

For example, "there's a sequence that someone has to make lemonade. And basically it starts at a particular point in the dialogue and then a number of lines later it says 'here's your lemonade.' McCaw says the tasks aren't difficult for his actors "but require practice."

For McCaw, *Crimes of the Heart* is a theatrical celebration of the challenging yet unconditional love of families.

"If you start looking at theatre, so many plays have it at the centre of them, some form of a family situation. You can go to *Hamlet*, *Romeo and Juliet*, you can go to Greek tragedy, you can go to *The Glass Menagerie*."



## New kid on the block

**Workshop West's new boss man dishes the dirt**

THOSE FOLLOWERS OF EDMONTON'S theatre scene may have noticed an absence this season. The venerable Workshop West Playwrights' Theatre has been remarkably silent. The reason, says new artistic director Michael Clark, (who with new general manager Shannon Padjen makes up the theatre's management team), is "boring. It's a cash flow challenge, and I am taking the time to learn this company's infrastructure and retool and retrench what it does."

Cash in hand is Clark's motto. Having helmed Whitehorse's Nakai Theatre for the past eight seasons, he brings a great deal of arts administration chops to Workshop West.

"In that eight years, we went from a budget of \$168,000 to \$412,000 when I was finished... I programmed lots of material, but the general manager didn't understand cash flow, so instead of having the surplus we expected, there was a deficit."

He doesn't intend to allow that to happen with this company. "It's driving some people crazy, that we haven't announced anything, but Shannon [Padjen] and I are taking stock of the company resources still."

There's also been a fair amount of rumour going around Edmonton about Workshop West's probable fate but reports of its imminent demise are greatly exaggerated. "People love drama," says Clarke. "On my God, they're fighting for their life!"

What Clark intends to do is strengthen company ties with like-minded organizations, such as Alberta Playwrights' Network (APN), and reinvent some familiar events like the Kaboom! Festival, and Springboards.

We had five very successful artisitic years and now we are planning for the next five years. There are some challenges getting funding for our ancillary programming, and that will be solved."

The Playwrights' Garage and the play reading festival Springboards are to be completely reinvented.

David Mann created Spring-

boards and I think it's a great thing. But it was an end of season play reading event. I've taken the Springboards resources and am working to establish a new playwriting unit that will meet bi-weekly during the season, and we'll hire actors once a month to come in and read what's been developed. That way the new play development process is sustained. It is part of the theatre's mandate to give the public access to new work."

In the end, Clark envisions the "new Springboards" taking place at the beginning of the season rather than the end. He's also re-envisioning the Kaboom! Festival, which was cancelled last season.

"I had the idea that Kaboom! should offer career advancement to 'nearly established' co-op level artists who are struggling against that funding glass ceiling trying to get to their next level of development, but who don't have the financial support or access to what they need."

The new Kaboom! might just fill that void.

Clark is especially jazzed by the response to his new Pitch to Play event. A blind pitch of 27 plays was cut down to ten last weekend, and scenes will be read this week at La Cite Francophone. The panel of Clark, Elyne Quan, Marty Chan and Tracy Carroll will narrow the choice to five shows which will be developed through the new playwrights' unit.

"This weekend we'll have David McNally, Leon Brausen, Linda Grass and Jesse Gervais performing the scenes. It was very interesting and quite a lot of fun. Lots of disagreement—having a panel took away all the subjectivity."

So Workshop will continue in a slight state of hibernation, and Clark will resist the temptation to jump in and "make his mark" too quickly.

"I'm excited to leave my legacy with the company, but I think the best legacy I can leave is a solid financial state of affairs. I'm a gardener or a horse breeder rather than a horse jumper."

EVA MARIE CLARKE

BETH HENLEY'S  
**CRIMES OF THE HEART**  
DIRECTED BY KIM MCCAW

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## Scrooged

The Cratchit family finally get their comeupance at NLT

### MRS. BOB CRATCHIT'S WILD CHRISTMAS BINGE

By Christopher Durang. Directed by Trevor Schmidt. Starring Tiana Leonty, Andrew MacDonald Smith, Richard Meen, Jana O'Connor and Cody Porter. Dec 2, 8 pm. The Third Space (11516-103 St). Tickets: \$25, available at the door or in advance at 472-1586.

**CHARLES DICKENS' CLASSIC** AND ever-so-familiar Christmas ghost story gets a particularly madcap and intelligent twist in the Northern Light Theatre fund-raising production of *Mrs. Bob Cratchit's Wild Christmas Binge*.

Written by master satirist Christopher Durang, this play promises to "appeal to people who think like me and really hate Christmas."

It's "fun for the cynics in the crowd," who don't like seeing department store Christmas displays go up in September, says director Trevor Schmidt.

The semi-staged reading of Durang's 2002-penned comedy plays one public show only, on Dec 2 in a funky cabaret-style presentation at the Third Space.

Durang, a prolific playwright whose career dates back to the early '70s, the American dramatist was well-loved by Edmonton audiences in the early '80s with a string of saucy hit plays like *Sister Mary*

*Ignatius Explains It All for You and Beyond Therapy*.

"We were looking for a new Christmas presentation after having done David Sedaris' *The Santaland Diaries* for a couple of years, so I sent away for a bunch of Christmas plays, which is how I came across this work," says Schmidt.

"All you have to do is just order up a few drinks, sit back and enjoy a wacky evening. I guarantee you that if you walk out of the evening feeling warm and fuzzy it's because of what you drank. Or that you're a Scrooge."

the Cratchit home, he finds a kindred spirit in her, which sets off the chain reaction. The ghosts find themselves coming back to the Cratchit house and then the play morphs into this wild parody of *The Gift of the Magi*, *It's a Wonderful Life* and *Touched by an Angel*.

While the Durang text may baffle 16 characters, Schmidt's take on the tale is being performed by only five energetic young performers: Tiana Leonty, Andrew MacDonald Smith, Richard Meen, Jana O'Connor, and Cody Porter.

"This is an over-the-top, madcap

**"I guarantee you that if you walk out of the evening feeling warm and fuzzy it's because of what you drank. Or that you are a Scrooge."**

DIRECTOR TREVOR SCHMIDT

production, so expect multiple roles and even puppets as we tell the tale," he says.

Case in point, Smith's plush alter ego, the wise-cracking, hoodie-wearing puppet Maurice Tippo, is making a special appearance to play Tiny Tim.

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## CURTAIN RAISER

EVA MARIE CLARKE

### CASINO FRINGE ROYALE

SEVERAL DOZEN WARMLY WRAPPED THESES, Fringe types and of course, assorted mowers and stalkers, thronged the Next Act pub on Monday to breathlessly await their Fringe fate. As the indefatigable Gerald Osborne assiduously scrutinized, 108 names—20 international, 30 Canadian, and 50 local, were drawn.

They are the confirmed companies performing at 2007's *Live and Let Fringe*—yes, it's a Bond theme next year, but hopefully no one will get tied to a chair while the villain lashes out with no star ratings. No doubt we will be both shaken and stirred by the many shows on offer as Old Strathcona is turned into North America's largest theatre venue.

Most importantly, creative Edmonton is on hand to welcome Fringe Theatre Adventures' new program director. Thomas Scott assumed the hybrid position on Monday. It combines the roles of Fringe Festival director and children's programmer. Scott is jazzed.

"I've really hit the snow running. The reception has been very warm which I really

appreciate in this chilly weather. I've met the team here and it's very strong and now I'm beginning to meet the artists. That's my role, to act as liaison between the company and the artistic community."

The Guelph University-trained administrator/theatre producer brings some solid chops with him to the position. After graduating with his MA in drama, he headed to New York where he spent a year saving a theatre company. "It was the Players' Theatre in the heart of Greenwich Village. We were able to create a solvent business. The theatre remains a theatre instead of being sold and turned into retail or condo space as seems to be the custom. It is so important to keep cultural history alive."

After a year in the Big Apple, Scott returned to Toronto and began looking for a job in theatre administration anywhere in Canada. Edmonton drew him in. "Grassroots theatre is something I'm interested. The Fringe is that. It's a movement for community theatre, young artists, emerging and established artists... this is a community happening that is accessible to all people. Awesome!"

Still, he says, the production of new work is a huge challenge to the artist. "It's difficult.

Even in New York where theatre is held up as the be all and end all of the arts, it's difficult because it's all about money and less about the art. That's troubling when you're first getting something up on its feet."

What Edmonton has going for it is a palpable atmosphere of artistic support. "I've only been here two days and everyone is so supportive of each other. I never felt that in

Toronto. The artistic process needs to be supported like that."

First up for Scott is establishing his place in the company.

"I intend to find a real feel for the experience that is Edmonton's International Fringe Festival... as we grow into a global culture it is necessary to have a platform for grassroots creation to be showcased in this unscripted environment. The success of a show depends on the audience's reaction."

### NEXT

ALL NEXTFEST ENTHUSIASTS, SUPPORTERS, virgins and participants are urged to attend the festival director Steve Piro's today at noon. He's holding a Nextfest Forum at the University of Alberta's Fine Arts Building, room 43.

He wants to know what you like, dislikes would change and what you'd like to see more of. Show up and bring your opinions.

And, Nextfest is soliciting submissions for DanceFest. The written submission deadline is Feb 2, 2007, with live auditions Feb 16 and 18. Your submission should include a curriculum vitae, a written proposal and any documentation in either DVD or VHS format.

Send your package to Nextfest, 9000 107th Street, Edmonton, AB, T5M 0H1.

If you have questions, contact Festival Director Steve Piro ([nextfest@theatre.ualberta.ca](http://nextfest@theatre.ualberta.ca)) or Dance Curator Linda Turner ([lturner@ualberta.ca](mailto:lturner@ualberta.ca)).

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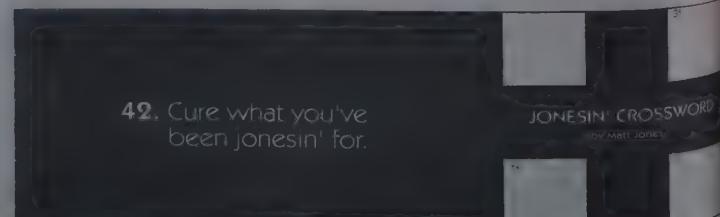
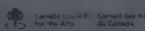
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# food and drink

## Bananas for Tomato

Italian resto doesn't fail on its Tasty promise

TASTY TOMATO  
14233 Stony Plain Rd. **★★★★★**

WHEN I ARRIVED FIVE MINUTES before it opened, there was already a line-up outside of Tasty Tomato. The restaurant doesn't take reservations, and a half hour later people were once again lining up—this time waiting for a table to open up. Good signs.

I had avoided the Tasty Tomato for far too long and, at the behest of my companion, finally made it on time. As a small restaurant (maybe 50 to 60 seats) alongside a quiet commercial strip on Stony Plain Road it isn't quite hidden away, but it could be easily missed. I had noticed Tasty Tomato before but, unfortunately, never seized the opportunity. Maybe it was the name.

I'm always weary of restaurants with names that include adjectives describing the quality of the food. Normally it just seems like they're compensating for something, but in this case it was accurate—the food was tasty and made great use of the ubiquitous tomato.

A lot of the offerings were deceptively simple, but with fresh sauces and large portions the meals had a home-cooked aura about them.



**MAMA MIA!**  
Head chef/owner Mirella Amendola has been tossin' it at the Tasty for 13 years.

Dishes included, for example, rotini con formaggi (rotini with three kinds of cheese including fontina and mozzarella), penne rustici (penne with spicy Italian sausage in a tomato sauce), penne cirio (penne with tiny meatballs in a tomato cream sauce), a simple bocconcini and tomato salad, and even veal limone.

My companion and I settled on two glasses of the house red (a slightly dry and inoffensive wine), calamari in tangy sauce (\$8.95), a linguine pescatore special (\$17.95), and cannelloni (\$12.95).

First up was the bread—warm and fresh with olive oil and balsamic vinegar for dipping (it was either focaccia or something like it). Then came the calamari—a solid standard against which to compare restaur-

rants as it seems to be one of the universal appetizers. They weren't breaded, but they didn't need such a disguise to hide their taste or texture. Sitting in a tangy sauce that was good enough to eat on its own, the calamari were delicious and neither overly chewy nor limp. Take that, various local pubs!

The cannelloni were big and full of a tender veal and mozzarella taste that combined with the tomato sauce in a mix savoury and ever-so-slightly sweet that melted in the mouth.

My pescatore was filled with shrimp, scallops, baby clam, and chunks of lobster, all covered with a slightly spicy tomato sauce and then sautéed, blending the flavours. The sauce was like a smooth silk that

spread evenly over everything when topped with a bit of fresh parmesan from the shaker table, it was enticing.

I had heard that they had trouble with service at some point in the before, but if they did I could Not only did our water glass stay full the whole night, but each dish from the bread and appetizers right down to the main course and the bill—was served right after another like an efficient triage system the emergency rooms would be proud of. All the servers and the cooks



worked as a team and kept things moving.

Maybe it helped that a man who was likely the owner—or an actor hired to portray the kind of guy who should own a small, great Italian restaurant—hovered over the place ensuring the gears of his great machine were kept greased.

The portions, after the bread and appetizer, were too much for my companion and myself. The service happily and quickly packaged our leftovers to take home and supply the next day's lunch. Unfortunately it meant we missed out on the deserts including one that my companion claimed was superb—coconut ice cream surrounding a sweet mango sorbet dusted with shredded coconut. It looked like an egg (on the promotional image) and apparently was a nice way to finish lighter than the spumoni I offered.

Next time, I'll try and save some room for it. But if my experience time around is any indication, the will most likely be tough.

JAMES ELFORD

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# on screen

The fight against AIDS often starts in the community



## AIDS to memory

Films 15 million orphans hope you'll see

### AFRICAN COMPASSION

### ACT UP IN THE EVENING

Dec 1-4, Metro Cinema, Zeidler Hall, Citadel  
Theatre Info: metrocinema.org

WITH ALL THE OTHER SCARY AND/OR awful things going on in the world today—terrorism, global warming, PC leadership conventions—it's pretty easy to forget that we in the western world were all once deeply terrified of AIDS.

As much as we like to think the disease has gone away because it isn't screaming at us from the headlines everyday, here are a few facts to ponder, courtesy the Joint

### United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS:

- There are an estimated 40 million people living with HIV or AIDS worldwide—many of whom don't know they're infected.
- It's estimated that 4,000 Canadians are infected with the HIV virus every year; an estimated 40,000 Americans are infected.
- AIDS has replaced malaria and tuberculosis as the world's deadliest infectious disease among adults and is the fourth leading cause of death worldwide.
- 15 million children have been orphaned by AIDS.

Suffice it to say, we're not exactly out of the woods as far as the global AIDS pandemic is concerned. For all of us who took it for granted that AIDS went away because the media light stopped shining on its victims, Metro Cinema, in partnership with HIV Edmonton and Amembabazi, is presenting a weekend of films that review the history of AIDS activism, assess the AIDS epidemic's impact on Africa, and humanize the plight of people living with or dying from AIDS.

*Living with Slim* (USA, dir. Sam Kauffman) and *Their Brothers' Keepers: Orphaned by AIDS* (Can-

da, dir. Catherine Mullins) present unflinching portraits of AIDS' youngest victims. Kauffman's film presents face-to-face interviews with seven African children, aged six to 17 years old, about what it's like to be HIV-positive.

The kids describe their physical symptoms, the social ostracism and familial rejection that come with testing positive, and their hopes, which are dimmed considerably by a lack of medical care, proper nutrition and, in almost every case presented here, parents. *Living with Slim*—the nickname for HIV derives from its tendency to cause physical wasting—is more or less artifice-free, which makes it all the more direct and disturbing without fancy cinematography, music or narration.

*Their Brothers' Keepers* is more visually striking, with voice-over narration and incidental music, but that doesn't diminish its impact.

Director Mullins and her crew visit a shantytown outside Lukasa, Zambia and follow community workers who are on the lookout for families of AIDS orphans living without adult guardians. Since there are some 850,000 AIDS orphans in Zambia, such families are easy to turn up and Mullins examines the struggle for existence, the hopes and the realities these child-led families have in store.

An impassioned speech by Stephen Lewis, the UN's special envoy for HIV/AIDS in Africa, injects perspective about the scope of the tragedy and the need for a shift in global priorities.

*Living with Slim* and *Their Brothers' Keepers* screen together on Dec. 1 at 7 pm and Dec. 3 at 9 pm.

*Fight Back, Fight AIDS: 15 Years of ACT UP* (USA, dir. James Wenzel) is a video scrap book of the AIDS activists who went to extraordinary lengths to draw much-needed attention to the outbreak of AIDS in the U.S., starting with the first AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power (ACT UP) demonstration in 1987.

The film compiles video footage

of various events over the next 15 years to draw attention to the AIDS crisis, to protest profiteering on the part of pharmaceutical companies and to force the government to acknowledge and deal with a disease that mainly afflicted marginalized segments of American society.

The raw footage certainly conveys the wild energy and life-or-death seriousness that powered the protests, as well as reminding the viewer how little has changed over the course of the last five American presidents—one conspicuous placard at a 1991 rally reads FIGHT AIDS, NOT ARABS. And man, do you ever get to hear a lot of catchy and highv informative chants:

*Fight Back screens* ... Kate ... Cizek's short film *The Bicycle: Fighting AIDS with Community Medicine* on Dec. 1 at 9 pm and Dec. 4 at 7 pm.

If you prefer your films about the AIDS crisis to be populated with familiar faces, look no farther than Thom Fitzgerald's *The Event*, starring Parker Posey, Don McKellar, Sarah Polley, Jane Leeves, and Olympia Dukakis.

Posey stars as Nick, a New York DA's assistant who is investigating the latest in string of mysterious deaths—HIV-positive cellist Matt (McKellar) died of an overdose in the midst of a house party, and it becomes increasingly apparent that the partygoers were all aware Matt was planning to take his life. As Nick interviews those who were there, including Matt's mother (Dukakis), sisters (Polley and JoAnna Adler) and lover (Peter Carver), the details of his final months unfold in loving flashback.

Despite the fact that it features the most uncharismatic Parker Posey performance ever, some ill-fitting comic touches and a persistently ironic-slash-poignant soundtrack, *The Event* is earnest and moving, and manages to make its point about dignity in death without getting too sappy.

*The Event* screens Dec. 2 at 7 pm and Dec. 4 at 9 pm.

SCOTT LINGLEY

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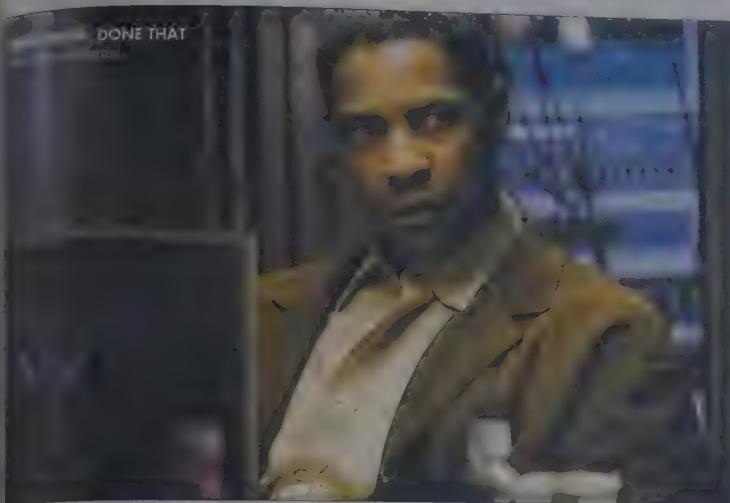
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## Surveillance means freedom

If you see *Déjà Vu*, Denzel has won

### DEJA VU

Directed by Tony Scott. Starring Denzel Washington, Jim Caviezel, Paula Patton, Val Kilmer. Now Playing. ★★★★☆

**IN 1995, CANADIAN SINGER-SONG** writer Alanis Morissette released the hit single "Ironic" from her album, *Incubus*.

Critics were quick to point out that the situations Alanis described in the song, such as "Rain on your wedding day" or "Needing a spoon, when all you've got is a knife" weren't actually ironic, but rather just bad luck or a coincidence.

However, the fact that Alanis's song "Ironic" didn't actually involve irony, was in fact, I think, unto itself, ironic.

Tony Scott's new pseudo-sci-fi thriller, *Déjà Vu*, named after the French phrase meaning "already seen," isn't actually about *déjà vu*. It's about time travel. But similar to how Alanis's "Ironic" not actually being ironic makes it ironic, I was overcome, while watching *Déjà Vu*, with a strange feeling, as though I'd seen this film before.

*Déjà Vu* starts with a terrorist bombing of a passenger ferry, in post-Katrina New Orleans, that kills hundreds of people. ATF agent Doug Carlin (Denzel Washington) swoops in to investigate and uncovers the body of beautiful Claire (Paula Patton), who was actually murdered earlier that day by the terrorist (Jim Caviezel), but has been disguised as a victim of the bombing. Enter F.B.I. Guy (Val Kilmer, in a role so meaningless I don't even remember his character's name)

who invites Carlin to be part of his special high-tech surveillance unit. There we are introduced to the main plot device of the movie, a ridiculous contraption that allows you to re-watch the past unfold and, just possibly, travel back in time.

Will Denzel Washington succeed in retracing Claire's last few days by using the super computer/time machine, find the clues he needs to reveal the identity of the terrorist, prevent the ferry bombing, and travel back in time to save Claire's life? Of course he will. He's Denzel

**Washington is dangerously close to becoming a caricature of himself. He's played the same kind of "everyman" so many times.**

Washington, and people love watching Denzel save the day. Or at least some people do.

Personally, I think with *Déjà Vu*, the Academy Award winning Washington is dangerously close to becoming a caricature of himself. He's played the same kind of "everyman" police detective/down on his luck father/football coach so many times now, I'm beginning to think he only has one facial expression. Paula Patton does what she can in the damsel in distress role, which requires her to look really good while being tortured. The only bright spot is Jim Caviezel, who manages to take the stock Unabomber terrorist and create a

genuinely menacing character. His few scenes with Washington are definitely the highlight of this sub-par snoozefest.

Director Tony Scott, who brought you films such as *The Bourne Identity*, *Man on Fire*, and *Enemy of the State*, obviously isn't afraid of retreading familiar territory. With *Déjà Vu* he manages to make a slow-paced, watered-down version of every other movie he's ever made.

Terry Rossio (who co-wrote the *Pirates of the Caribbean* movies and *Shrek*) and Bill Marsili came up with

the absurd and predictable screenplay, which manages to incorporate 9/11, Hurricane Katrina, and the Oklahoma bombing all in one movie, and promote a message that totally intrusive video monitoring by the government is the only way we can truly fight terrorists. How's that for American propaganda!

There's also no point in mentioning the gaping plot holes or lapses in logic in the screenplay, because as soon as Carlin is introduced to the super computer/time machine, you have to shut off your brain and suspend all disbelief or you'll be kicking yourself for not going to see *Casino Royale*.

NATHAN CUCKOW

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David Edelstein, New York Magazine



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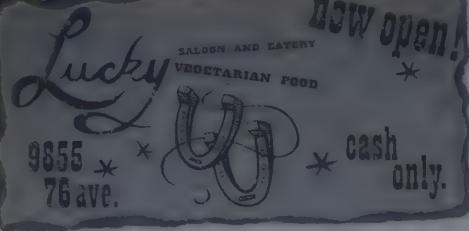
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# capsule film reviews



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### THE U.S. vs. JOHN LENNON

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## PRINCESS



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DENZEL WASHINGTON AND TONY SCOTT  
"DELIVER AGAIN!"  
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DENZEL WASHINGTON

## DÉJÀ VU

**Babel** The supplemental title to Alejandro González Iñárritu's latest film should be *When Bad Things Happen to Everyone*. The director of *Amores Perros* and *21 Grams* offers another multi-narrative, the pieces of which interlock in oblique but apparently meaningful ways to reveal how we're all connected, especially when we hurt, once again pick away at the false sense of security that our social structures and undeserved sense of privilege afford us, to show how quickly all that can be wiped away by cruel fate. The parallel tragedies invoked to explore this terrain, however, seem as false and poorly integrated as the wads of putty applied to make Brad Pitt look a normal middle-aged male. *Babel* seems bloated rather than informed by its writer of weighty rumination. ★★☆☆☆ (SL)

**Borat: Cultural Learning of America for Make Benefit Glorious Nation of Kazakhstan** Sacha Baron Cohen's peculiar genius: going out into the world posing as gormless characters, brushing up against the powerful and the ordinary and using his cheerful ignorance to expose the latent bigotry, hypocrisy, and idiocy of total strangers. Cohen is a walking special effect, so completely encased in mock-cluelessness that no amount of hostility will discourage him from perpetrating ever-greater abominations of etiquette, cultural sensitivity, and decency. Just when you think that he can't milk any more novelty out of his racist, sexist, homophobic, crude and patently dumb alter-ego, Cohen ups the ante, compounding outrage with outrage until there's a solid chance you might wet yourself. Far and away the funniest movie of the year.

★★★★★ (SL)

**Casino Royale** Casino Royale follows James (Daniel Craig) to several exotic locations as he tracks down the main villain of the film, a banker to international terrorists, Le Chiffre (Mads Mikkelsen). Director Martin Campbell has delivered a fantastic action film that relies more on suspense and intrigue than the over-the-top gad-

getry of past Bond films. *Casino Royale* reinvents Bond. He's a lean, mean, cold-hearted, womanizing, professional killing machine. Here we are presented with a real, complex, and brooding man, who doesn't always win. This is a Bond that is rough around the edges and he's all the better for it. ★★★★★ (NC)

**Deck the Halls** Matthew Broderick, a stick-in-the-mud optometrist, likes to plan his Christmas, and his family has to get dragged into the dreary minutiae of it all. New neighbor Danny DeVito wants his Christmas decorations so spectacular that his house can be seen from outer space. What follows is a back-and-forth testing of wills, escalating revenge, and general nastiness. The premise could only work if it truly were over the top—into cartoonish Road Runner and Coyote territory, as suggested by one sequence. Unfortunately, the film is too lackadaisical to go for that kind of frenetic energy—ultimately it veers off into the conventional and ho-hum.

★★☆☆☆ (TM)

**The Departed** Matt Damon is a cop working for Martin Sheen and Alec Baldwin. Leonardo DiCaprio reports to Irish mob boss Frank Costello (Jack Nicholson), whose thoughts are scarcely troubled by human feeling. Unfortunately, this Martin Scorsese remake of a Hong Kong action classic gives the actors little to play with. So even though Damon is really a mole for the cops, and even though Nicholson gives a great performance, this trip to the outskirts of the darkside doesn't impress. ★★☆☆☆ (MH)

**The Fountain** In Darren Aronofsky's *The Fountain*, Hugh Jackman stars with Robin Wright in parallel stories spanning three centuries. Though not emotionally charged and metaphorically compelling, that's not to say it doesn't look astonishing. For a movie spanning three disparate epochs, it has remarkable visual consistency. The players, too, are remarkable. However, it focuses so claustrophobically on the principle pair that it leaves the reality they live in only slightly shaded in. A little humour wouldn't have hurt either. In the end, *The Fountain* becomes so fixated on its grand themes that it fails to convince on a human scale. ★★☆☆☆ (SL)

**A Good Year** Russell Crowe plays a proudly ruthless London stock market trader. His Uncle Henry (Albert Finney) dies and leaves a chateau and vineyards in Provence... and the opportunity to stop and smell the roses. Pretty much heartbreak meditation on life, love and wine comes across as a forced and contrived excursion into the predictable. Crowe never really gets a grip on Skinner, and Ridley Scott's direction is unfocused and uninspired, failing to explore why Skinner has lost his way. Romantic comedy genre is neither Scott's or Crowe's forte: perhaps they should just stick to what they do best. ★★☆☆☆ (NC)

**Half Nelson** The surprise hit of TIFF tells the story of Daniel Dunn (Ryan Gosling), a junior high school history teacher at an inner city school and a drug addict. When he is caught smoking crack in the girls' locker room by one of his students, Drey (Shareeka Epps), the two of them are drawn together in an unusual friendship. *Gosling* (lost seen in *The Notebook*) is amazing. Neither pitiful as a drug addict nor preachy about his role as an educator, he manages to embody these seeming opposites, a living example of a dialectic fighting for balance in one body. He's matched by Epps' stoical performance. It's incredible watching this character come to the knowledge of the failings of adults, that grown-ups are not immune from mistakes, false hope, and delusion.

★★★★★ (MS)

**Let's Go To Prison** Finally able to seek revenge on Judge Nelson Biederman III but cheated by the judge's death three days before

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his latest release, inmate John Lysinski (Denzel Washington) gleefully gets himself sent back to torture Nelson Biederman the IVth (Will Arnett) to collate and the judge's clueless miscreant son. *Expect the usual jokes about showers, a sodden warden, skinheads, and a gravely voiced Alton American teddy bear named Barry (Ch. McBride)* who takes a shine to Biederman. This film *owes* its one star to a kinda imaginative climax. But ultimately, it's a shame that the film's *cliche*, aspect is its marketing-hook title. ★☆☆☆

**Manufactured Landscapes** A lovely piece of work by director Jennifer Abbott following photojournalist Edward Burtynsky, whose landscapes fuse the pastoral with elements of our disposable culture. Burtynsky seems to feel a little trapped by her subject, but she is to be applauded for getting this fascinating photographer's work out to us. Burtynsky paints pictures that are the antithesis of the prescriptive sentimentalism we are used to seeing. At the heart of the film lies the reality that China is a nation rapidly becoming an urban society, making the film worth seeing just to catch a glimpse of the likely heir to the American Empire. ★★☆☆☆ (AK)

**The Queen** This is undeniably a classic two-hander about the Elizabethan monarch and her advisor, yet there's something not quite on about the idea of a film on the present monarch. In the 21st Century we ought to have got over our strange fascination with hereditary power and privilege. Frears' film seems altogether too soft and sentimental, though it masquerades as a pithy critique of all things royal. This is a film that, for all its scenes of Elizabeth doing "normal" things like drinking tea, answering telephones, and swearing, has no interest in determining whether the members of the monarchy are really just like us. ★★☆☆☆ (CN)

**Shut Up and Sing** One needn't be a bumbling Kazakhstani reporter to trick Americans into revealing their tragic-ugly ugly side. Ostensibly the film is about how, despite a reactionary boycott after their anti-Bush remarks, the Dixie Chicks refused to be silenced. But the true revelation, lies in how this was able to happen, thanks to the well-heeled Blue State handler types that try to coach the Chicks through the crisis. Only singer Natalie Maines seems to possess any character, flipping the proverbial bird of country radio and crafting songs with a new matricide of her experiences. Given the vast critical discourse across the board in the initial stages of Dubya's imperial folly, it all makes for an often funny film that's truly no laughing matter. ★★★★★ (ZV)

**Stranger Than Fiction** Harold Crick (Will Ferrell) wakes up to find that his every move and gesture is being narrated, only to discover that he's actually a character in a book and the voice is that of writer Kay Eiffel (Emma Thompson). It sounds like a great idea, but somehow it goes off the rails, possibly because it's really just Charlie Kaufman by numbers. Everyone is too reticent (including Ferrell), making the scenes ponderous and slow—bad news for a film that, at its core, still a comedy. Nothing seems to ever gel, and every moment where you find yourself caught up in the story is undercut by something that leaves you out of it—forced "poignancy," unnecessary elaborate and chunky shots and sets, artifice whimsy. ★☆☆☆☆ (TM)

**Tenacious D: The Pick of Destiny** Jack Black and Kyle Gass play two bumbling never-two-beens musicians on a quest to become the world's greatest band. Persuading photos of legends such as AC/DC's Angus Young, they notice that their heroes shared a common denominator—each was photographed using the same mysterious guitar pick—the titular "Pick of Destiny." Despite turns Ben Stiller, Jim Robbins, and Nirvana/Foo Fighters' Dave Grohl (as Soren), the pick is a piece of one of his teeth) and the undynamic duo themselves, the film is a hot, unfunny drag that consumes that the audience find this pair endearing. ★☆☆☆☆ (ZV)

**Reviewers:** Nathan Cuckow, Mike Hobert, Anthony King, Scott Lingley, Tom Murray, Greg Nicholls, Mari Sasano, Zoltan Varadi

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# **my look**

Name: Jackson Tahuka  
Section: Native American Performer

River Cree Rec Centre in Enoch for the HIV Edmonton Memorial Round Dance.

**Describe your Style:** My look, my style, whatever I do comes from my family and has been passed down to me forever

Wearing: I dress simple. I am into traditional ways. My sister made my earrings. They are a gift. The hat is from the LDS kiosk in West Edmonton Mall. The coat is from the Louis Bullion gift shop here in Alberta. It was like \$215.00, I think. It is warm. The t-shirt is also from West Edmonton Mall. I don't remember from where exactly. It is simple. Both my jeans and shoes were bought while traveling through the U.S. performing. The jeans are from an outlet in Montana, for Wisconsin.

Int: The Creator runs my life. I am into traditional ways, participating in Powwows and  
Grand Dances, Peyote as a religion, drumming.

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HEROINES AND HEROES: HOPE, HIV, AND AFRICA

By Steve Simon  
Chrona Press / 96 Pg.  
Available At [www.stevessimonphoto.com](http://www.stevessimonphoto.com)

Roselane Madubedube (left) is one of twin brides, marrying husband Ignatius Sefafe Mokhomo. Her sister, Rose Matlase Seghomoko and new husband William are also in the photograph, taken at their double wedding in Maputsoe, Lesotho.

**story** Matthew Halliday  
**photos** Steve Simon

# CALL TO AID

In Time For World Aids Week, A Former Edmontonian  
Turns His Lens On Africa's HIV Crisis



Light is reflected on the wall at a funeral home in Lesotho. Every day in Lesotho, 80 people die from AIDS related illnesses.

"The funeral industry is one of the only growing businesses in many of these places. Just to see the volume of bodies coming in is awful. You can't help but run into coffins being transported, and funerals on Saturdays are busy days, the ministers moving from funeral to funeral." — Steve Simon



Peace Corps Volunteer Jean Margantis and Youth Counselor Tsepo Rameane (not in picture), discuss HIV and AIDS with Grades 8-10 students at Mahobong Secondary School, in Lethlo, Lesotho. Students are taught how to open condoms, how to properly use them and to check expiration dates. The school has 130 students; 60 - 70 per cent of the students are either single or double orphans.

**I**t's easy for Canadians to be complacent about AIDS. While the AIDS crisis that engulfed the developed world in the '80s and '90s has largely abated, in other parts of the world the disease has become epidemic. Or worse, in countries like Zambia and Lesotho, where respectively 17 and 29 per cent of the population are infected with HIV, the disease long ago surpassed epidemic levels. Today it might be better described as a way of life. "AIDS is just woven into the fabric of the everyday," says photojournalist Steve Simon. "And by AIDS, of course, I really mean death."

An internationally celebrated photographer, Simon is the author of four books (including *Healing Waters*, which documents the purported healing powers of Alain's Lac Ste. Anne). Born in Montreal, Simon lived in Edmonton from 1986 to 1996, working as a photographer at the Journal. Now based in New York, his most recent project is *Heroines and Heroes: Hope, HIV, and Africa* (the book will be officially launched Dec. 1, to coincide with World AIDS Day).

Since 2002 Simon has made a number of trips to sub-Saharan Africa, travelling to Lesotho, Zambia, Mozambique, and Ethiopia, documenting the spread of HIV and its impact on the people and places he's visited. "The funeral industry is one of the only growing businesses in many of these places," says Simon. "Just to see the volume of bodies coming in is awful. You can't help but run into coffins being transported, and funerals on Saturdays are busy days, the ministers moving from funeral to funeral."

Despite the prevalence of HIV infection in sub-Saharan Africa, there's still a great deal of myth, rumour, and misconception surrounding the disease.

"That's really the thing that's often hardest to understand," says Simon. "that in countries where almost one in three people are infected, the stigma is still a problem. It keeps people from getting tested, or getting treated. I

met one man whose hut was set on fire by other villagers to get him out... because so much of the population is rural and uneducated, ignorance is still widespread."

Simon's talents as a photographer are in strong evidence throughout the book; some of his shots are almost unbearable to contemplate in their poignancy. In one, a stack of child-sized coffins lies propped against a wall, awaiting fresh bodies. In another, terminally sick patients sit in a dark room, their gaunt, knowing faces lit only by candlelight, or obscured by shadows.

But other photos are unexpected, heartening, and even funny snapshots of life under dire circumstance (and we're not talking about trite "inspirational" shots of laughing African children and dancing villagers). An especially poignant photo shows a young boy riding across the vast savannah on horseback, looking like nothing so much as an African cowboy.

"These aren't just god-forsaken places, where everyone is always sick and miserable," says Simon. "It's so much more complicated than our understanding of it."

One of his subjects is a woman named Mamello Mokholokoe, a disabled woman who set up a clinic for mentally and physically disabled kids.

"Life is so hard for even able-bodied people," says Simon, "so the infrastructure for those who need extra help is just not there. She's set up a centre for kids who are physically and mentally challenged... It was wonderful to see something like that."

One of Simon's favourite pictures in the book is of an aerobics class for HIV patients.

"A lot of the people in this class had walked for hours to get to the hospital where the class was taking place," says Simon. "And then to witness this thing where everyone in the class was going all out. Much harder than I would have been working out, let me tell you. These people wanted to live."



A small church in Maputsoe, Lesotho led by Pastor Moses Marshall.



Mphewy Mothebe looks out a window while a nurse gets ready to remove a body from a room at Motebang Hospital in Lesotho.

# holiday gift guide

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PEOPLE IN PLACES LESS PROSPEROUS THAN ALBERTA HAVE NO IDEA HOW LUCKY THEY ARE. When it comes to gift giving, they have it *totally* easy. The people they know *need* stuff. In Alberta, when some politician hands everyone an extra \$400, people can't decide whether to buy a couple of extra iPods or to split up a box of electric Kleenex.

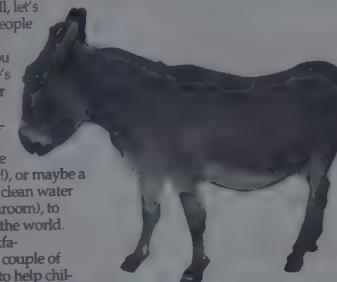
So let's think this through. Maybe your friends and family have got plenty of stuff, and maybe some other folks don't have so much of anything. So...maybe...it would be a good idea...to give a gift that will mean a lot to you, important people and to other important people you haven't even met. Or maybe you'll be contributing to a better community. Or to a sadder planet, even.

Next week, we'll have some suggestions about how to spoil your holiday gift recipient, and in two weeks, round up last-minute gift ideas. This week, we bring you Part One of our annual gift guide: Guilt-free giving

### EGGS FOR BREAKFAST... FOR WEEKS

Oh yeah! You really need the new Playminte-X-box! Because it has, like, the best graphics. And. And...yeah, ok. You don't know why. TV just told you to get one. Well, let's consider the plight of people who know exactly why they need a chicken. You can donate, in someone's name, a chicken (\$15 for egg protein for the whole family), or a donkey (\$120 for endless transportation of people and stuff, plus fertilizer), or maybe a Sanitation Kit (\$117 for clean water and an emergency bathroom), to people in need around the world. Oxfam Unwrapped ([oxfamunwrapped.ca](http://oxfamunwrapped.ca)) has a couple of other ideas about how to help chil-

dren, families and communities to overcome poverty and injustice. And your recipient gets a warm glow and a card with a super-attractive donkey on it. Seems like a deal to us.



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# holiday gift guide

## GET OUTTA HERE

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When you get to your organic destination, you get food, training, and accommodation in exchange for a little hard labour. It's great for people who love traveling, eating healthy, and don't mind working for their organic supper. Sign up now at [www.wwoof.ca](http://www.wwoof.ca)



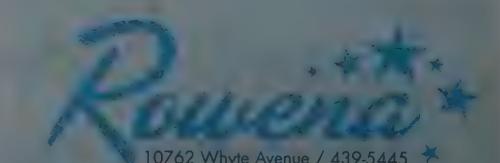
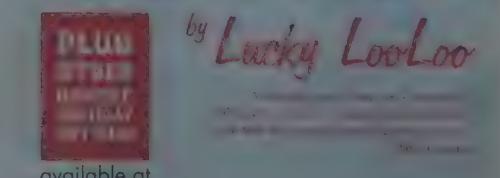
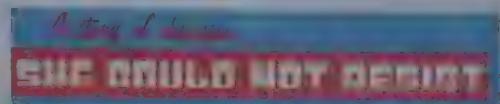
## GREEN TEETH

Instead of buying a big impersonal gift basket from the mall, why not make your own wicker wonder filled with green products? Earth's General Store ("Saving the world one customer at a time") sells a wide variety of green products, from organic soaps and shampoos, deodorants and toothpastes, to feminine products and cleaning supplies. For example, the Green Beaver Company's products don't contain aluminum, artificial fragrances, artificial flavours, dyes, preservatives, or other non-natural ingredients. Some do contain grapefruit seed extract. Oh that doesn't sound so bad.

They aren't tested on animals, and they're made in Canada. By Canadians. Who care about the planet. Like you do. Visit [www.earthsgeneralstore.com](http://www.earthsgeneralstore.com).

## CANTON

Another gift idea from Earth's General Store is the toilet dam. Your money conscious (and environmentally concerned) friend will surely be thinking of you whenever they flush, knowing that they're saving between 15 and 50 per cent of the water that would otherwise be needlessly flushed down the toilet. To maximize water savings, why not throw in a low-flow showerhead and faucet aerator, which can reduce your home water use as much as 50 per cent? And the hot water heater insulating blanket will reduce heat loss and can lower the energy cost of heating the water by as much as 50 per cent too. This gift will keep on giving every time they turn on the tap.



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## WHAT'S DOGGING THE CAT

Got a friend with pets? Fat pets? Fat, artificial-food-stuffed pets? The Tail Blazers health good store for pets ([www.tailblazerspets.com](http://www.tailblazerspets.com) or [tailblazersedmonton.com](http://tailblazersedmonton.com)) offers products like Farm Fresh Pet Foods, HygeniCat-Super Absorbent Natural Cat Litter, natural supplements, Free Range Dog Chews, natural cleaning supplies, and toys. Animals get fat too—and however cute a pudgy cat or dog may be, fat pets are not only a tragic indicator of overabundance, they're also subject to severe health problems like diabetes. Many pets are eating nutrient-void food full of filler and preservatives. With a natural diet, your pet will get the enzymes, amino acids, vitamins and minerals she needs. And the more chemicals that are removed for their environment (through natural cleaning products, toys, or kitty litter) the healthier they, and you, will be.

# holiday gift guide

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### IMPROVE THEIR WETWEAR

Instead of buying a bunch of artificial circuits, what about making an investment in someone's brain? Or body? Prepay a month's worth of cool classes, art lessons, yoga instruction, or music lessons. Maybe you can take a class together. Edmonton Public Schools Metro Continuing Education ([www.metrocontinuingeducation.ca](http://www.metrocontinuingeducation.ca)) offers a range of education for part-time students. The great thing about the gift of education is that you can really focus on your recipient's areas of interest. Edmonton's Vertically Inclined Rock Gym ([www.verticallyinclined.com](http://www.verticallyinclined.com)), for instance, offers courses for individuals or groups for rock climbing. What a great way to meet new people (build community) and increase your confidence (become a more effective citizen).

### ANOTHER PLACE AT THE TABLE

Tend to have trouble getting your holiday tofurkey just right? Your holiday visitors will find your culinary handiwork easier to swallow if they know everyone's getting a hearty holiday meal. Give a donation on their behalf that will provide Christmas dinner for a family at WIN House (a part of the Edmonton Women's Shelter) and you're guaranteed rave reviews for your cooking. WIN House has a sponsorship program where you can anonymously donate to a family who needs a little help this holiday season. Grocery store gift certificates are used to buy food for Christmas dinner. For more information visit [www.winhouse.org](http://www.winhouse.org).



### PAWS FOR THE CAUSE

Fifty cents a day, or an annual donation of \$100 to Alberta Guide Dog Services, can change the life of a blind or visually impaired person. That's all it costs to set a young puppy on the road to guide dogdom. Your gift recipient will get a framed picture of their sponsored puppy, quarterly "pup-dates" on how the puppy is progressing, issues of "Paw Prints" (the charity's newsletter) and a picture of their dog graduating with their new human colleague. It's the perfect pet for apartment dwellers! Watch your gift grow without having to worry about housebreaking. For more information visit [albertaguidedog.com](http://albertaguidedog.com).



**the new cat in the  
urban jungle**



# **visual arts**

# Caught in the Web

**Tessa Nunn distills and instills holistic art**

#### ~~TANGLED REFLECTIONS~~

By The Coloured Web artists, Through Dec 28,  
ArtsLab Studio Gallery (3rd Fl., 10217-106 St.),  
Thursdays 5 to 8 pm or call 439-9532

TESSA NUNN LIVED TWO BLOCKS away from the World Trade Center on that fateful day in the fall of 2001.

"Has it already been five years?" she asks, as she does a walk through of her curated show, *Tangled Reflections*, currently up at ArtsHab until the end of December.

Graduating from the New York Academy of Art with a Masters degree in 2002 and actively painting and teaching soon after, Nunn eventually returned home to Edmonton and started The Coloured Web, a learning institution dedicated to teaching peaceful self-expression

Although she had planned on returning home regardless of the catastrophic events, 9/11 was certainly a catalyst for her approach to teaching.

"Art will change the world," she says. "And the artistic mindset is healing and can heal communities."

Holding weekly classes with The Coloured Web that combined meditation, yogic movements, and the fundamental classics of drawing and painting. Nunn wanted to present the culmination of her students' work and progress from the past four years.

Ranging from 16 to 87 years of age, The Coloured Web's students are gathered with no apparent rhyme or reason." Nunn infuses in her students, from first-time novices to trained professionals, a sense of balance between the mind and the body.

"It's about integrating the whole—  
the soul and the heart—into  
the process," the 36-year-old  
ArtsLab resident says. "I teach in a

holistic way. I wanted to create a schoolroom space that would go out to rural areas where this type of education is not available."

Currently teaching art in the U of A's Faculty of Education, Nunn now gets the opportunity to share her

classical training with fellow teachers, hopefully distilling the practice of art as a practice of finding balance and communication.

The works in her current exhibition consist primarily of figurative paintings and a handful of oil-based

portraits and landscapes—all traditionally reflecting Nunn's classical approach and academy based training. Nunn finds the body "loaded with content," focusing on the human form's potential for narrative and oil's natural luminous viscosity to capture its subject matter.

Beyond the basic anatomy and observation of light and shadows, the work from The Coloured Web expresses a sense of self-mediation experienced by the collective artists.

Creating a "safe" environment for the artists and models, Nunn invites the artistic sensibility to express something that may otherwise remain untapped.

"Once they get the anatomy down, they usually branch off into the spiritual aesthetic. It's a movement beyond the physical and into psychology, sensuality, and spirituality," Nunn explains.

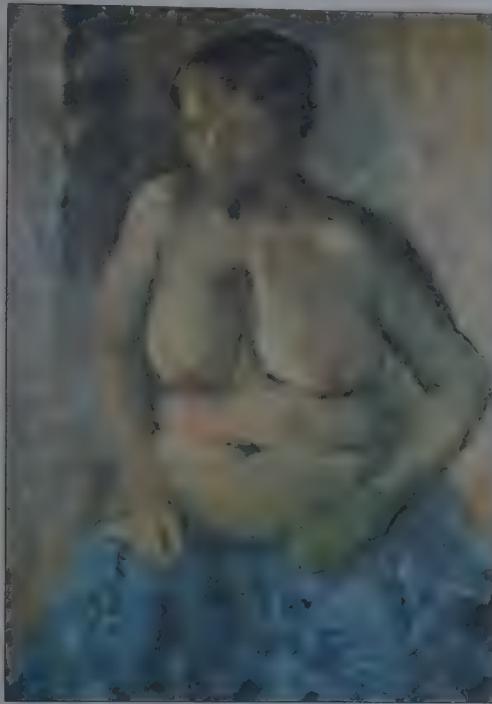
Quoting one of her students, art becomes a forum for self-expression and self-perception in a way of "presenting myself to myself"—presenting your thoughts, actions, and emotions in the work you are creating.

"It's transformative," Nunn says. "Art gives you a sense of confidence, a sense of peace."

As the first show from the artists of The Coloured Web, *Tangled Reflections* may very possibly be the last for a while. Having neglected a host of commissions for years, Nunn is putting the school on hold and actively returning to painting once again.

"In my heart, I have not really painted in years. I have to face my reality of existence. It's time to do this myself and [use] the same full concentration that I've been teaching my students."

AMY FUNG



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## Going somewhere fast

Songstress Jill Barber stays on track, charms audiences



### JILL BARBER

Opening for Ron Sexsmith, Thu, Dec 7, Myer Horowitz Theatre (Students' Union Building, U of A Campus), 8 pm, Info: 451-8000/www.clickmaster.ca or www.su-venues.ca, \$28

**JUST SETTLED INTO A SEAT ON THE** train speeding her from Montreal to Ottawa, Jill Barber finds that the circumstances of her mode of travel nicely mirror her current career trajectory.

"I have some momentum going on with my performances," agrees the Halifax singer-songwriter, fighting the deranged crackle of endless bilingual conductor announcements threatening to drown out her cell phone interview. "I'm definitely in a touring headspace."

The speeding locomotive metaphor may seem a little heavy-handed, but there's enough truth in it to hold up.

Let's see—there's a brand spanking new album (*For All Time*), a tour that encompasses Canada and Europe, and now she's been teamed up with Ron Sexsmith for 10 shows in medium sized theatres across the country. Sounds like a pretty good deal, right? Especially since she's

opening for a performer whose audience would likely best relate to Barber's patented jazz chanteuse stylings mixed with gentle, crafted country-folk.

It's a perfect match, and Barber is excited for the opportunities it presents, but she also can't help but look longingly in the direction from whence she came.

"Y'know, I've had a really good time playing with rock bands," she demurs, "just being the solo acoustic opener for the loud rock show. Maybe it's not an environment in which you'd think I'd thrive, but it works well for me."

She proved it when she lured indie rock kids to the quiet side during her opening slot for last year's Wintersleep tour, selling albums afterwards to kids primed for loud rock 'n' roll.

"That was fun," Barber recalls, "and touring with Wintersleep was great, especially since they're my friends, but for the next while I'm going to be out of the clubs."

She'll also be exploring opportunities outside of Canada, as she did on a recent three and a half week tour playing to appreciative audiences in

the UK and Ireland.

### FOLK ROCKING IN THE FREE WORLD

"I don't know that I feel like I have to move from Canada, but the overseas tour opened my eyes and got me excited about the potential, the possibilities of touring Europe. Before, I was too patriotic in a way, and almost to my detriment, because I thought that I had to make it in Canada before going to play elsewhere."

"Now I want to put as much energy into playing outside Canada as in Canada because I want to play to new people—I want to broaden my horizons."

"Now I want to put as much energy into playing outside Canada as in Canada because I want to play to new people—I want to broaden my horizons."

TOM MURRAY



### RON FOR SEXSMITH

ACHING TO KNOW WHAT RON SEXSMITH was thinking about when he released his latest album, *Time Being*?

Take a trip down digital memory lane at [www.seemagazine.com/issues/2006/06/06/mus8.htm](http://www.seemagazine.com/issues/2006/06/06/mus8.htm) and read Sexsmith's confessional interview with SEE to get the full picture.

## HOT TICKETS

MUST-SEE SHOWS



### THE ROMANTICS

■ Fri, Dec 1, New City (10081 Jasper Ave.), 9 pm That hair! That's what we like about ...



### FEAR FACTORY

■ Fri, Dec 1, Starlite Room (10030-102 St.), 7 pm Industrial metal legends haven't called it yet. So bring it on



### PAPOOSE

■ Fri, Dec 1, Planet Ze (10055-80 Ave.), 9 pm This guy's a whiz, so watch out for the mad flow. And please keep the knives at bay. Seriously.

### NICK PERREAULT CD RELEASE

■ Sat, Dec 2, SideTrack Café (10238-104 St.), 9 pm Local singer-songwriter goes "pop" miss it. With special guest appearances by a slew of Edmonton favourites (including the boys from Captain Tractor). Tune in to FM Dial on p. 35.

### CANTILION CHOIRS CHRISTMAS

■ Sun, Dec 3, Winspear Centre (4 Sir Winston Churchill Square), 3 pm Certainly not the last caroling concert of the season, the Cantilon Choirs' is the best way to kick off the (now never-ending) festivities.



### DAVID P. SMITH

■ Wed, Dec 6, Starlite Room (10030-102 St.), 8 pm The accordion-swinging matador singer/drunken hillbilly blues while grabbing bull by the horns, pini in hand. Something behold.

## Bass is ace

Alain Caron slaps and pops his way around the globe

**ALAIN CARON & FRANÇOIS BOURASSA**  
Sat Dec 2, Yardbird Suite (11 Tommy  
Blair Way), 8 pm, Info: 432-0428 or  
[www.yardbirdsuite.com](http://www.yardbirdsuite.com), \$20 (members)  
\$25 (non-members)

"PLAYING IN A DUO IS A WHOLE different experience, it brings the whole idea of a conversation into the equation—it has more intimacy," explains bassist Alain Caron.

And an intimate jazz experience is exactly what Caron and pianist François Bourassa plan to deliver this Saturday night at the Yardbird Suite.

"It will be like a conversation between six-string acoustic bass and acoustic piano. Our material will be original but, in the jazz tradition, where we will introduce a thought or melody, and improvise on that almost immediately."

A professional musician for most

**"It will be like a conversation between six-string acoustic bass and acoustic piano."**

—ALAIN CARON

of his life, Caron was first introduced to guitar while in his early teens. He was playing guitar in a Top 40 band at age 10, and at the tender age of 14 he discovered the music that would become his life's work and passion.

I bought a couple of jazz records, Dean Peterson *Live in Chicago*, and a Dizzy Gillespie, but it was the playing [bassist] Ray Brown on the Oscar Peterson record that hit me. I couldn't figure out what he was doing, it blew me away and I knew that was what I wanted to do."

Although he considers himself a sloucher, Caron spent some time at the Berkley College of Music in Boston "checking out where I was musically as far as my technique was concerned, but also taking ear training, harmony, studying composition, the whole thing, just about as



### BASS, SPECTACLED

Alain Caron and his former band UZEB received the Oscar Peterson Lifetime Achievement Award in 1991

soon as I got to Boston I started gigging with the be-bop heavyweights in the area, including Tom Harrell, Sal Nestico, and Bob Moses."

At the same time Caron was a member of the jazz-fusion group UZEB, based in Montreal. He was soon faced with a tough decision: stay in school or head home to be part of the band.

"I chose UZEB and, to this day, I'm glad I did. UZEB is the source of everything I know and who I am today. I learned to compose in a

group that had no limits; learned about sound, recording, studio work, learned how to behave on the road and how to be a band leader."

UZEB released 10 discs over about a dozen years, won numerous awards, and toured the world nearly non-stop. UZEB decided to call it a day in 1991 because, as Caron says, "We decided we all had to be 100% ourselves, the group was great but being in a group is a balance of compromises and we all felt it was time to grow as individuals. I wanted to be a leader and composer on my own, and I was ready."

He's since released a half-dozen recordings under his own name, appeared on dozens working with other artists, was voted "Bass Player of the Year" eight consecutive years by *The Jazz Report*, won two Haggard Hardy Awards for original jazz composition, and has taught bass around the world.

This weekend Caron, with his six-string acoustic bass in tow, has the chance to wear a different sort of creative hat.

"François [Bourassa] and I have worked together before and I love it. Doing this type of show gives me a chance to dig deeper into intimacy in my playing. It is a different challenge to play in a group with no drums—the space between the music can be as expressive as the music itself. In fact, I'm planning to record a duet record early in the New Year and I hope to have the writing for the album done by Christmas."

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music

## He \*hearts\* techno

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I LOVE TECHNO  
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ANYBODY WHO CHATS WITH EVAN John (aka DJ Lego) easily gets whipped into a frenzy for music. Anybody who sees him rock the decks is invited to have as good of a time as he has while he bounces around, lip-synchs the breakdowns of his latest favourite hardcore records, and feverishly scratches looped techno records that most would just simply layer one on top of the other like blocks.

"If the DJ doesn't seem like they're having a good time, how can you? I hate seeing DJs sitting there, having a smoke. If you have a lot of time to sit around with two turnta-

bles, throw in a third one," challenges John.

"It's all punk rock, it's all heavy metal," John replies when asked about his love of techno and his decision to resurrect 'I Love Techno.' It probably started when I would buy old Belgian techno to go along with my hardcore and 'old skool' sets all the time. When the UK acid techno scene came along, those classic sounds were in the music. After seeing Dave The Drummer and Chris Liberator it just sprawled from there. I like hardcore and hard techno because it's extremely honest, because it is banging."

As techno finds itself rejuvenated in popularity here and around the world, John decided that it would be worth having a regular techno night

"I hate seeing DJs sitting there, having a smoke. If you have time to sit around with two turntables, throw in a third."

EVAN JOHN, AKA DJ LEGO

back in the scene to showcase those who aren't regularly booked for the scene's big events and afterhours.

"Ash [The Askari] has his own style, has always been a supporter but it's hardly ever had a chance to play. DJ Bhavesh was introduced to me by Neal K. He's been another guy wandering around the scene with a lot of techno and tech-trance."

For this particular night, veteran DJs Neal K and Tryptomene will also spin their thang.

"Neal K is our techno golden boy," swoons John. "From hard minimal to funky Swedish stuff, I told him that he can play anything he wants."

For skills and selection, John now finds himself among Edmonton's elite.

"There's a lot of parties I'm play-



ing at and others that I'm helping with," a busy John explains. "A new little group I'm with called 'the New Age DJs' is presenting 'Nightmare Before Christmas' with Avenue Skatepark and the United Way. Everything you can name will be played by all sorts of people. It's December 9th from 9 pm to 7 am. Tickets are \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door, with \$1 of every ticket going to the United Way."

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### TIMELY TECHNO TO TAP

■ The perversely prolific John Tejada has released his best album yet. *Cleaning Sounds II: Filthy Business* (Palette, ★★★★½) succeeds by shooting the warm, spacey tech-house side of his earliest records through the precise, cutting, "clean" filters and ideas of his latest work.

■ After Mark Farina, the *Ministry Of Sound* sessions stay in Chicago, handing the reins to Green Velvet (aka Curtis Jones) for the latest volume of Sessions (MOS, ★★★½). Jones' classics (including "La La Land") are thrown together with future ones like "Shake And Go" as he joins the party at various speeds with like-minded producers on board.

■ James Holden always added some experimental flair to his trance anthems, but his debut length debut *The Idiots Are Winning* (Border Community, ★★★★½) sees his creativity unfettered by dancefloor expectations. Intended for home listening, Holden inspires the kind of early Warp Records that brought disjointed bleeps and beats together with wacky

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## Lenin among us

Montreal noise trio not of this world

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492-0267 or www.starthero.com.ca, \$12.

**NO TO BOBO, MINGO, AND PONEY P**  
P is up Montreal's Les Georges Leningrad, probably the furthest musical thing away from some of that city's bigger exports in rock. Les Georges manages to combine post-punk, dance music, noise rock and into one big unpredictable epic musical conglomerate, and by the end of a Les Georges Leningrad record—particularly the *Sangue Puro*—you've lost count of how many times you've both bobbed and shredded your head.

You can call it proto-chemical rock," yells Bobo, into a cell phone from current tour stop Dallas. "It's an assemblage of ugly sounds; it's like organized chaos. But the energy is completely punk, in the good tradition of doing it."

Les Georges are not an easy band to figure out: in between fits over the phone, strange and awkward yelps from bystanders, and completely unexpected answers, you

spend the rest of your time trying to distinguish what's fact and fiction.

"We met in a factory together," says Bobo, regarding the origin of Les Georges. This answer comes as a surprise, considering that Les Georges' official website bio says that they met in a street fight in Toronto—but when presented with this slight "misunderstanding," Bobo is adamant to set the record straight and tell the real story. "Mingo and Poney were working on televisions in the factory. Our boss was a big party man, and we met Poney at a party, and then we rehearsed with Poney P and we started to do a show and we started to do gigs, and then it went all crazy and now it's like a drug."

The convoluted, confusing answers Bobo gives to questions might make you think for a second that Les Georges may actually be the painted, caveman-like characters their albums and live shows make them out to be. "Maybe we look like aliens in Dallas," Bobo says, boating and yelling at pedestrians on the street. "But I don't care if they look at me, or if they want to beat me up. We don't want to make laws or get stuck in the motion, we are always ready to break everything."



and rebuild something else."

So is this an attitude that Les Georges Leningrad attempts to reflect in their music, or does your music reflect this in you?

"I don't like to go to school, and I don't like to have laws, and I don't like when people are telling me things," Bobo responds. "I don't even care about anarchism. I care about chaos, but I care about love, and I care about art, and I care about changing the world."

As Bobo starts spewing off about "nature and joy," a shrieking high-pitched note starts blasting from the club he's standing outside of. He says it's his soundcheck, and so he has to go. "One more thing," he quickly adds, yelling into the phone again. "I make my own books and preach on the street and I don't like money very much, so I try to get rid of what I have in my head. We just want to keep the magic."

EAMON MCGRATH

## Lights... Cameras... Porn?

Toronto pop mongers cry Awoo

### THE HIDDEN CAMERAS

Van Ruffians. Wed, Dec 6, Powerplant  
9 pm. Info: 492-3101 or www.su-  
periorca.com. \$14.

**TORONTO'S SMOG WAS A COZY SECURITY** haven for Hidden Cameras guitarists/vocalist and founder Joel Gibb during the first two years of the band's existence.

Gibb rarely booked his band for appearances outside Toronto's two area codes. This gave him a chance to produce true shows instead of just gigs, and the first real show the band put on was in downtown Toronto on Bloor Street West in a "porn cinema" that used to be a regular movie theatre."

But the band couldn't camp out in Toronto forever as their peppy tunes with homoerotic undertones rooted in classic pop music fans outside of the city. The band's sound is classic in the way best way pop can be classic, with a formulaic song structure and sing-along worthy choruses. But instead of being four blokes with hip hair-

cuts and dapper suits, jamming on guitars, bass, and drums, The Hidden Cameras have nine musicians, male and female, manning various and unexpected instruments like a xylophone, glockenspiel, violin, and accordion. Gibb thinks there's definitely room in popular music for such instrumental diversity.

"I love orchestral music, plus there has always been strings in rock music and R&B," he explains. "I don't think strings are just for classical music. Every song in pop music has one unify thing and that's the idea of a song."

With so many people and sounds to coordinate, the sound could potentially be weighed down, but it remains dynamic and joyously dancey, and the 18 collaborating hands end up producing a rich, vivacious folk-pop mix.

When the band was eventually coaxed out of their T-dizzie safe haven, they opted for other unusual venues like churches. But as the band's popularity increased in the



indie music realm, they couldn't afford to book their own shows anymore. Gibb puts it simply, "We have no time for that now," and he had to hand over the duties to a corporate booker.

Now the band finds itself playing more traditional venues. Although they have played in an art gallery in Victoria, and at the Institute of Contemporary Art in England, most other concerts since have been in bars. The Hidden Cameras' current tour to promote their third album, *Awoo*, released this summer, is proving to be much the same. But Gibb doesn't mind, he loves his brainchild band and admits that, ultimately, "We'll play anywhere."

SARAH HOYLES

blue food-colouring sundaes and quipped at his own "buzziness."

"It might sound fine to you out there but it's tripping me out." Then, song, "Wish I was a poltergeist/Spying on lesbians." It's not just his imagination—it's his unwillingness to abandon it, down to the innocent white bat hanging off his guitar head.

My hero!

FISH GRIWKOWSKY

## Animal farm

Chad VanGaalen brings surreal to life

### CHAD VANGAALEN

Nov 24, Siderock Cafe

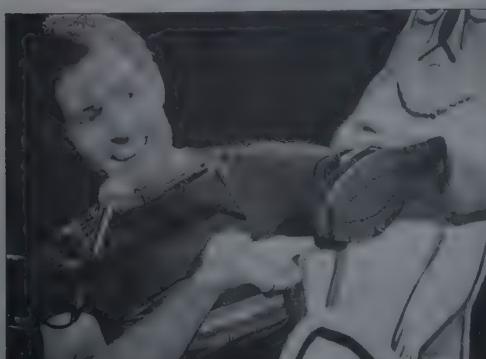
**IT MAY NOT BE GENEROUS TO MAKE FUN** of the ostentatious Tool's paisley banner spangles. Blue Man body paint, mohawks, and "I know 'not to" when a deceptively normal Chad VanGaalen sculpts his own stage act in actual art show with banjo-ready

Through solo, Calgary's piano/falsetto star along a "band" of corrugated Coroplast animals. These included two giant frogs, an elephant, and a guilty-looking bear, all of whom responsibly glowed in VanGaalen's practice space tour of new songs and ideas—like heckling his Jehovah mom because "they hate gay people and stuff. Fuck 'em like little fucking cockroaches," or his roles on sneakers with emergent swim fins ("I said it on stage, so it's patented!").

This is another of VanGaalen's secrets: constantly filtering us forward. So while he skinned Skelfconnection's peaks, like the

bubbling "Flower Gardens" and "Wind Driving Dogs," the thick slice of time spent on unheard songs made the bottleneck-stuffed Siderock salivate for coming days.

Half Neil Young, half Devo, he discussed



PHOTOGRAPH BY JEFFREY'S CAFE

REVIEW

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# music

## Let your body learn

What does Nitzer Ebb mean and what are they trying to say?

NITZER EBB

Ebbhead

Producers: Mark "Flood" Ellis and Alan Wilder.  
Released: 30 September, 1991, Studios. Sync  
City and Konk, London, Mute # STUMM 88

### ALBUM 61 (OUT OF 100)

THEY STARTED OUT IN THE EARLY '80S as a trio of Chelmsford punks, barely out of school, who'd spent most of their time immersed in the volatile and at times militant minimalism of bands like Suicide, Throbbing Gristle, Portion Control, and Die Krupps.

They knew little music and presented themselves as though they'd just appeared as rather violent extras in one of Derek Jarman's social-realist dramas about the Britons at the receiving end of Thatcher's "firm government" policies: skinheads in military paraphernalia, exhorting quasi-political slogans over a backing of loud drums and rolling electronic bass.

But Nitzer Ebb—childhood friends Douglas McCarthy, Vaughan "Bon" Harris, and David Gooday—had no particular message to communicate. Neither left nor right, they sought to provoke for the sheer hell of it, for the love of being young and loud—for fun. At best, Nitzer Ebb could perhaps be described as forcing their way forward, giving voice to the disenchantment and frustration fermenting in the one-third of Britain's population—most of whom were youth—who didn't fit with Thatcherism's vision of economic and social success.

Hungry little snouts, they may well have been dismissed as poseurs. But the emotions they tapped into were as real as the dirt, squalor, and poverty that followed in the wake of conservative "reform."

### FUN TO BE HAD

Nitzer Ebb's big break was their association with mix-master, engineer, and producer Phil Harding, who, during his tenure at Pete Waterman Limited in the mid to late 80s, helped populate charts around the world with the likes of Kylie, Dead Or Alive, Rick Astley, Mel &



# 100LPs

LECH LINKIEL

Kim, and Bananarama.

Perhaps to atone for what he had unleashed, Harding also lent his skills to more artistically inclined acts like Depeche Mode, Pet Shop Boys, and Erasure, and snuck Nitzer Ebb's tapes into the PWL studios during down time to mix their first 12-inch singles.

Here's where Daniel Miller, head of Mute, Britain's leading electronic label at the time, caught up with the Chelmsford boys, who soon found themselves associated full-time with Mute, recording their debut album, *That Total Age*, and opening up for Depeche Mode on tour across Europe. By this time the trio had shrunk to a duo, with Gooday fading into the background while keeping his hand in the design and presentation of Nitzer Ebb's recordings.

The association with Mute also meant that Phil Harding was out, while up-and-coming producer Mark "Flood" Ellis was in. In Flood's hands, Nitzer Ebb's sound swiftly improved from an

After a decade's absence from the studio, Nitzer Ebb are currently recording new material, for release early next year.

updated version of the hard, minimalist Teutonic disco groove the Deutsch Amerikanische Freundschaft had refined with legend German producer Konrad P. something more akin to a hybrid James "Foetus" Thirlwell's sampler-based jazz-rock fusion and electronic blues tweaked out of noise and analog bass.

### HEARTS AND MINDS

On 1991's *Ebbhead*, Nitzer Ebb reached their creative pinnacle, lyricism maturing from simple slogans to a brand of white-man's rap tackling everything from the Middle East crisis (on "Reasons"), to the increasing homogenization of the musical mainstream (on "D"), the sexual ambivalence of heavy metal (on "Godhead"), fatherhood (on "Sugar Sweet"), and divine "Ascend".

Musically, *Ebbhead* benefits greatly from the programming chops of Depeche Mode's own Alan Wilder, who produced the album with Flood. Emulating hip-hop's pioneering sampling techniques and fusing them with Nitzer Ebb's industrial-electro strut, he created the illusion of a vibrant band in a studio where only samples, computers, effect-boxes, and the synthesizer accompanied the perhaps most dynamic vocal performance of Doug McCarthy's career.

On *Ebbhead*, Nitzer Ebb managed to create a white variation of hip-hop as it would have sounded if it had originated in Essex instead of Kingston and New York, and adapting its techniques without diluting its attributes to suit a white audience.

Quite an achievement for some Chelmsford punks who just wanted to provoke for the hell of it.

### COMPLEMENTS

Deutsch Amerikanische Freundschaft *Alles ist Gut*, 1981, Virgin # V2202.

Foetus *Hole*, 1984, Self immolation Some Bizarre # 3

Nitzer Ebb *As Is*, 1991, Mute # 127

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I THINK IT COMES OUT OF A SINCERE part of the pop song—that thing that we hear growing up on the radio, that we hum in the way home, that song that we sing along with in a concert, that one that we put on the mix tape we make for a year,” explains Nick Perreault.

It's not surprising to hear Newfoundland-born Perreault (who moved to Edmonton four years ago) admit he has a love for pop music. Perreault grew up in a period where parents invested in updating their music collection from vinyl records to CDs, and he was exposed to the most classical form of pop at an early age—The Moody Blues, America, Belinda Carlisle (which he covers on his solo debut, *The Good Intentions*), and Crosby Stills Nash & Young, among others.

“I've been trying desperately to write a Randy Newman type song, and the results were just so different from anything like it

**FRANCOIS MARCHAND**  
**THE FM**  
**DIAL**

that it was an exercise in futility, you know?”

*The Good Intentions* is a pure pop record: one inspired and influenced by the music of his youth and his life experience before and after moving to Alberta. Recorded through numerous small stints at Norwood Studios with Captain Tractor's Chris Wynters and Miles Murdoch over the span of 11 months, Perreault's first effort is remarkably smart and mature, exposing a songwriter with a definite knack for pop hooks and layers, a

deep understated voice, as well as a magical hand in crafting stripped-down piano numbers.

Working with Wynters and Murdoch (and having met them through the open mic scene), it didn't take long for Perreault to find himself surrounded by friends who were more than willing to guest on the record—Scott Peters, Jason Kodie, Will Previle, Mireille Moquin, Ann Vriend... And most of them will make an appearance at Perreault's release gig at the Sidetrack Cafeteria Sat., Dec. 2.

But it had to be asked. Why *The Good Intentions*?

“Years and years ago I was helping a friend's band—part manager, part groupie, I was the guy who sells the merch and drives the car. I had just started to write lyrics and one time I told him, ‘Listen, I got this idea for a line, I think it's really cool.’”

Perreault then delivered, “If I had your good intentions, I'd be on my way to hell.”

“He was like, ‘Oh, that's a terrible line. That sounds like the worst Garth Brooks song that could ever be re-written. That is the most cliché country turnaround line.’”

Perreault held on to the line for years until it was the right time, and thus it became the title of the record.

“I thought, ‘Well, to hell with those guys.’” He laughs. “I'll show them.”

## TAKIN' ON DRUGS

CHAPMAN STICK SINGIN' DALE LADOUCEUR can't wait for her new album to come out in February. A Zappa-infused rage (not in the “cover” sense but in the more esoteric sense) inspired by Tooker Gomberg's wife's crusade against drug giants like Pfizer, her Zappoesque *Canasta on the Pharmaceutical Industry* is bound to surprise many and catch listeners and long-time fans off-guard.

“I could really give a flying fuck,” she candidly asserts. “Of course you want people to

and even Chris Martin sounds like he's having a blast.

“Personal highlights are The Kaiser Chiefs ('Modern Way'), Arctic Monkeys ('Dancing Shoes'), and Coco Freeman teaming up with Franz Ferdinand on 'The Dark of the Matinee,' but thankfully the album isn't full of tourists. Omaha Portundo delivers a sweet version of 'Killing Me Softly,' and teams up with Ferrer on an elegant version of 'As Time Goes By.' Not only that, the album is a fund-raiser for APE (Artists' Project Earth), a disaster relief and climate change awareness charity. I flip this album on iTunes, and it's an instant vacation from

the blizzard outside my window.”



## THE JAZZ

888888 OKAY, YEAH, WE KNOW IT'S COLD. So Dave Johnston (AKA DJ David Stone) is a buzz that will not only warm up your soul, but your winter days as well.

“I was recently introduced to the new *Bueno Vista* compilation, *Rhythms Del Mundo*,” he explains, “which finds the likes of Ibrahim Ferrer interpreting Western pop songs with some welcome Cuban flair. The original artists joining the party on many of the tracks. The vibe of the whole record is set right off the top with Coldplay and Blocks—nothing sounds very melancholy with a bossa nova beat and horns, I tell ya,

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connect with it. I can't write in a contrived formulaic fashion, I can only write as it comes, as a stream of consciousness. The first draft is done with your heart, the second draft with your head. If you're honest and deliver it and it rings true, it's all that matters.”

Catch a glimpse of Ladouceur's controversial new material when she performs with Tocay Ride partner Al Brant at the Blue Chair Café on Fri., Dec. 1.

## ANOTHER TRAGEDY

STEVE LOREE AND THE BOYS FROM LOCAL no-bullshit rock trio Greyhound Tragedy drop their new album, *Myself Is My Favorite, Man*, Dec. 4, at Filthy McNasty's. Are you ready for a ruckus?

Don't hold back  
Your music is important to us  
fmarchand@see.greatwest.ca

GOOD FOR YOUR EARS  
mondays

featuring the “Chef”

hot philly

WHITE-HOT SHAKEN

a latitude 53 seasonal fundraiser

SATURDAY DECEMBER 9 - DOORS at 8PM  
Tickets \$12 (members) \$16 (non-members) \$18 (door)

Line-ups to be announced

SEE WORLD FINLAND MOTOPILOT'S COMMITS

November 30 - December 6, 2006 • Edmonton 35

# cd reviews



**THE BEATLES**  
Love  
(EMI)  
★★★★★



**THE DECEMBERISTS**  
The Crane Wife  
(Capitol/EMI)  
★★★★★



**TOM WAITS**  
Orphans  
(Anti-)  
★★★★★



**The Heavy Petters**  
Smell the Glove  
(Freaky Flow)  
★★★★★



**TENACIOUS D**  
The Pick of Destiny  
(Epic)  
★★★★★

CONCEPTUALIZED THREE YEARS AGO FOR A potential Cirque du Soleil extravaganza in Las Vegas, the controversial *Love* collection, re-hashing and mashing up over 30 different Beatles classics is, surprisingly, bloody brilliant. But really, how can you go wrong when you have the father/son duo of producers George and Giles Martin going back to the Fab Four's original source tapes and inventing a theatrical soundscape that spans the career of the 20th Century's most important musical pioneers?

Love, as much as it could be a flat-out disaster, surprises at every turn—from flipping “King Sun” backwards to mashing up “Being For the Benefit of M. Kite” with “I Want You (She’s So Heavy)” and “Helter Skelter” (oh... my... God). The end result is a concept album that proves the Beatles and George Martin to be as relevant as ever—true song-writing/recording geniuses to be celebrated and remembered for their impact on their generation and the ones that followed. Just cue up the multi-version re-hash of “Strawberry Fields Forever” and you’ll pretty much be convinced all you need is Love.

Fab indeed

FRANÇOIS MARCHAND

EVEN IF YOU KNEW THAT THE DECEMBERISTS' pseudo-concept album, *The Crane Wife*, was inspired by the Japanese children's folk tale of the same name, you'd never be able to tell. Of course, the band argues that the record isn't all a concept album, monsooning it a musical canvas painted with the colourful extrapolations of cuties—and yet often gruesome—stories. But that's beside the point. The point is that, since most of the music does such a tranquilizing and mellow overcoat, you'll never notice what they're singing about, mainly because you're too bored to care.

The sedative lyrics aren't necessarily the be all and end all of the album, but because their sound tends to lean towards the lullaby end of the spectrum as well, The Decemberists have a problem. Their songs come across as a thinly spread sugar coating on old, dry brownies. “The Crane Wife,” in itself, is fairly progressive and enjoyable, but when it comes to “The Crane Wife I & 2,” you won't be able to stomach anything else involving cranes. Indeed, The Decemberists should have turned towards an inspiration that's a little less like an anesthetic and more like a hallucinatory upper. That would've been something completely different.

AMANDA ASH

TOM WAITS HAS DELIVERED HIS MOST expansive work yet: three CDs of material covering all his “trademarks”: his dark, sadistic, Southern-blues stampers; the delicate, soulful and well-written ballads; and the strange, otherworldly and experimental head-scrappers. All styles are woven together under the guise of *Orphans*, over-viewing unreleased, forgotten, and collaborative material alongside some excellent new stuff.

The problems are few and far between: perhaps the only thing holding *Orphans* back from being the best thing he's ever put out—and yes, I'm quite serious about that—is the fact that you have to switch CDs every five minutes to hear the song you thought ought to come next. Most Tom Waits albums have a miraculous cohesiveness to them—*Swordfish/trombones* being perhaps the greatest example—and *Orphans* becomes less and less of a classic Waits record and more and more of a B-sides collection because of this tiny “problem.”

But why complain when Tom Waits is beat-boxing beneath the Devil's blues (“Lucinda”), reading Charles Bukowski (“Nirvana”), and covering the Ramones (“The Return of Jackie & Judy”)? This guy is not just a legend, but the legend—and this is why.

EAMON MCGRATH

FORGET ABOUT THE SPICE GIRLS (IF YOU haven't already) because one Canadian chick backed by a couple of guys is taking on the girl power cause. The 21-track debut album from The Heavy Petters is laden with fem-friendly tunes, and it even comes with a brand-new batch of break-up anthems (“Say You're Sorry” and “Sick and Tired”) and the essential girl-power “affirming your womanhood” song (the inner-slut-embracing “I'm a Heavy Petter”).

Rock-folks Lisa Swain puts her voice to the tunes spun by dance music veterans Mutt (Sean Roman) and Grenfinz (Gabriel Au) to create sounds that span traditional pop rock all the way to the tech heavy. But unlike my mom, this group of Canucks doesn't shy away from technology—instead they find a way to blend folkie pop with drum and bass and shake your ass dance music. The result is one-of-a-kind electronic-folk, with beats layered under ring-tight lyrics sung by a real gal who doesn't have songwriters shoving their words down her throat like so many producer-groomed pop stars. *Smell the Glove* is a challenging but fun freshman album, double-dog-daring your ears to define the musical stew.

SARAH HOYLES

OH BOY, IT KINDA RULES, IT'S KINDA FUNNY but it's also become kinda useless. What do you expect? It's the D. But whereas the *Tenacious* idea was cool when it first began—a hilarious HBO shorts, a kickass self-titled debut helped by a few sweet sketch bits or a stellar musical cast—the dumbfuckery is pushed to the extreme on the musical version of *The Pick of Destiny*. Oh, that's the point. Maybe, but the D have stood on easier ground before. It doesn't help that *Tenacious* has some extra spoken word bits, all senseless purpose and context for the “story” gettin’.

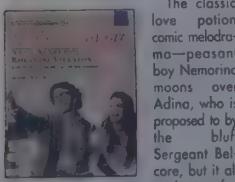
So here's the deal: you've got JB and KC (growing more tiresome than ever), Dov Grohl, Ronnie James Dio, and Meatloaf, and you've got your “Kickapoo,” “Headbanger,” myriad other “ass-whooping” D's filmic “rise to fame” bits when it comes down to it, it's not all that he obscure anymore, and the POD shredder itself very thin in its attempt to rock your balls off with tired, vulgar clichés impossible to accept as parody.

Smart? No. Stick with the classics

FRANÇOIS MARCHAND

— Canadian artist

**Thursday: Gaetano Donizetti, L'Elisir d'Amore DVD, Virgin Classics.**



The classic love potion comic melodrama—peasant boy Nemorino moons over Adina, who is proposed to by the bluff Sergeant Belcore, but it all works out after

the arrival of a traveling pharmacologist in Donizetti's popular opera. Tenor Rolando Villazon is a likeable Nemorino, singing in a rough and earthy style (“un fumato lagrimo”), while soprano Anna Netrebko is the alluring Adina.

**Friday: Serena Ryder, If Your Memory Serves You Well, EMI.**

It's always a tough call on how to review albums like this—by the undoubted skill and tastefulness of the musicians involved? The

arrangement of the music?

Or the lyrics?

Or the production?

Or the overall effect?

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# listings

PHONE: 430-9003 FAX: 432-1102 EMAIL: info@see.greatwest.ca DEADLINE: FRIDAY 5 PM

## LIVE MUSIC

### ALTERNATIVE

AVERAGE SKATEPARK 9030-178 Ave. — Fri Fort Five w/ guests Tye Blind Witness w/ All That Fools & They Evolve

BAUDOMOD YOKKA BAR 10324-82 Ave.,

10pm-2am 436-4418.

BAD DOG 10425-82 Ave., 439-1082 — Fri

BLUES MOON LOUNGE U of A Campus 492-2048

102-129 97 St. — Fri Thunderhead w/ DJ Echo

Harmoney

MISTTUNES 10355-82 Ave. — Info: 434-6324.

NEIL MCINTOSH 1031 Jasper Ave., Fri 8pm

The Trash Bingo w/ DJs Nozz

Jones & Beers Fri The Romantics w/ Cockatoos & The New Vain Sun New Model

(U) w/ Stick Figure.

NIKKI DIAMONDS 8130 Gateway Blvd., 439-

00

ON THE ROCKS 11740 Jasper Ave., 482-4767

WOMENBART U of A campus — Thu That Guy

w/ queen Wed The Hidden Cameras w/ The

Even Buttons Dec 9 Nathan w/ The Wheat Pool

& The Plain Dealers

REDBACK CAFE 10238-104 St., 421-1326 —

7pm Ronin, Neil MacDonald & The Burnin

Spots Fri The Unicorns w/ The Fabulous

Saprefaces & The Secretaries Sat Nick Perrelli

CD Release w/ The Smokes, Will Preville &

the 4th Son of Adammen w/ The Comedy Factory

Show & Third Person View Tue Dresden Row w/

Reverence & Black Noise Wed

QUARTEUR 10030-102 St. 428-1099 — Thu

Womeneleep w/ Val Hallen Fri Fear Factory w/

Acrobats Hypnotist & Decapitated Sofi

Epiconoclast w/ Emcee E & The Hidden Genz,

Dec 3 Three Dec 8 Swell w/ guest,

VELVET UNDERGROUND 10030-102 St. 428-

137 — The NRMLS WLCM w/ Shut Out Our

Dad's "Dude You Feel Electrical" 12"

Uniques Fri Crop Circle w/ Seven Devil Fix Sat

George Leningrad & Duchess Says Tue The

4th Invasion Tuesdays Wed Lushious

WUNDERBAR HOFBRAUHAUS 8120 - 101 St.

428 — The Tippy Agogo w/

Markwicks

XTRME ZONE ROLLER RINK 14420-112 St. — Sat

2nd Parol Roller Derby Bout w/ The Igniters.

### BLUES & ROOTS

BLUE CHAIR 916-24-76 Ave., 989-2811 —

The Danese French Fri Dale Ladouceur & Al

Grant Sat Riverdale Bluegrass.

BLUES ON WHYTE 10329-82 Ave. 439-5058 —

The Sputheole The Hinterland Blues Band

of The River City Horns Mon-Wed Brent Parkin.

RUSTY'S PUB 402-118 Ave. — Info: 474-0997.

WEST START CAFE 484 Riverfront Square, 438-070 — Fri Martin Keni Sat Prairie Cats.

WEYBEE BAR & GILL 1107 Knotwood Rd 440-

120 — Every Mon N. Gary Thomas & guests,

O'CONNOR'S IRISH PUB 9013-88 Ave. 465-4834

WEDDING 104-104 St. 988-5457 — Sat Miser

luck

## HOT SHOWS

NOV 30 — Red Ram Urban Lounge, 8103-105

NOV 30 — Wintersleep Starlite Room, 10030-

— Fri w/ Val Hallen

DEC 1 — Free Factory Starlite Room, 10030-102

St. — Fri w/ Sublocution, Hypnoisy &

Groovemaster

DEC 3 — New Model Army (UK) New City,

10105 Jasper Ave. w/ Stick Figure.

DEC 6 — The Hidden Cameras Powerplant, U of

A campus — The Bonn Buffet

DEC 7 — Ron Sexsmith Myer Horowitz Theatre,

10105 104 St. — Fri Barber Tickets

527 or 1M. Studio booth, Blackbird, Listen

Records & The Powerplant

DEC 8 — The Big Good Times Myer Horowitz

Theatre 4th & campus featuring Oca

Coco Tickets 525 or 1M. SU info booths,

Blackbird Listen Magazines & The

Powerplant

DEC 12 — And you will know us by the Trail

of Dead Edmonton Events Centre, WEM w/

the Glass Brothers. Tickets \$22 at TM,

Box Office Listen, Megatunes & Freedoud.

### TICKETS LEGEND

1 ticket, 5 St. Anne Street, St. Albert, (780) 459-1542, boxoffice@st-albert.net, ordentheatre.com • CT - Citadel Theatre, 9828-101A Ave.,

182-182c, 1888-425-1820, citadeltheatre.com • HOR - Horizon Stage, 315 Jespersen Ave., Spruce Grove, 962-8995, horizonstage.com • TIX - Tix on

the Internet, 9930-102 Ave., 420-1757, 1-877-888-1757, fixonthesquare.ca • TM - Ticket Master, 451-8000, ticketmaster.ca

WHISTLE STOP LOUNGE 12416-132 Ave. — Info: 451-5506

XVRECKS 10143-90 St. 466-8069 — Fri

Slowburn.

### JAZZ

FOUR ROOMS 137 Edm City Centre East, 426-4767

HUBERT'S 7601-115 St. 436-1161 — Wed

Wobbly Wednesday w/ dj fredreick Info: www.huberts.ca

JEFFREY'S CAFE 9540-142 St. 451-8890 — Fri

Gordon Matthews Sat Paul Leeding

RIVERSIDE BAR & GRILL 367 St. Albert Trail, 460-1122 — Every Sun The Red Ants

YARDWIRK SUITE 10203-86 Ave. 432-0428 — Fri

Nikola Silianova Sat Alan Caron & Francois Bourassa

### POP & ROCK

BACKDRAFT PUB 8307-99 St. — Info: 430-9200

CASINO EDMONTON 7055 Argyle Rd., 463-9467

— Fri & Sat Sodas & Cornestone

CASINO YELLOWHEAD 12464-153 St. 424-9467

— Fri & Sat Colle Rose & Cornerstone

HOMEGROWN SOUL SHACK 8102-10324-82

Ave., 989-7009 — Every Sat, 5 pm, live music,

JEKYLL & HYDE PUB 10610-100 Ave. 426-5381

— Every Fri & Sat Headwind

KINGSKNIGHT PUB 2221-34 Ave. 433-2599

RENDEZVOUS 10109-149 St. 444-1822

SECOND CUP 2000 Plaza, 10310-34 Ave. —

Mon Ron Taylor.

URBAN LOUNGE 8103-105 St. 439-3388 — Thu

Sonic Band of the Month: Red Ram w/ The

Omega Theory Fri-Sat Vacation On Mars Wed

Keep Six w/ Black Berry Traffic

### PUB MUSIC

ALEXANDERS LOUNGE Chateau Nova Hotel, 159

Airport Rd. — Every Fri & Sat Eric Miller

ATLANTIC TRAP & GILL 7704-104 St. 432-4611

— Sun Slowburn.

BUD'S LOUNGE Landlubber Mall 6658, & 137

Ave. — Every Thu 9pm nine Sat 9pm

live entertainment.

CELI'S IRISH PUB 10338-109 St. 426-5555 —

Every Mon Weekend Nights w/ Captain Tractor

Every Fri kick it w/ Eric's Sat Jammin

FILTHY MCNASTY'S 10511-82 Ave. 916-1557 —

Mon Greyhound Tragedy CD release w/ Down

the Hatch

THE NEW TAPHOUSE 9020 McKinney Ave., St.

Albert — Info: 458-0860 O'BRYNES IRISH

PUB 10616-82 Ave., 416-6766 — Mon DJ

Angus & Don Berner Trio w/ Bob Tilleyde

Irish jam session w/ Shannon Johnson & Irish

dancers Wed Chris Wynters of Captain Tractor

& guests.

THE DRUID 11605 Jasper Ave. — Info: 454-9928

THE DRUID SOUTH 2740 Calgary Trail — Info:

465-6800

### DANCE CLUBS

#### ALTERNATIVE

BACKROOM VODKA BAR 10324-82 Ave. —

(upstairs), 436-4418 — Mon Local Motive

-House, progressive, techno w/ guests Wed

Soulful Deep House w/ DJs Smoov & Nic-E Fri

All Out Fridays w/ Shortround, Echo & Sweetz,

mash-ups and downfloor rhythms Sat Flava-

hip hop w/ Shortround, Echo & guests Sun

Moonlight Cinema 9 pm - Simpsons, a movie &

Di. 10pm-11pm. Call 454-9928 for more info.

BOOTS 1024-106 St. 423-5014 — Open 7

days/week. Happy Hour: 3 to 8 pm Fri Retro

Disco Sat Flashback Saturdays w/ DJs Derrick &

Monny Mafuta, Male Stripper, 11 pm

BUDDY'S NIGHT CLUB 11725-109 Ave., 488-

7736 — Open Nights 9-3 Sun Rotating drag

shows in The Stardust Lounge w/ Ms Bianca &

Mr Vanity Fair, GoDiva & Donatella NE! In

the GoDiva Show, DJ West CoastBabyDaddy

Men Amateur Strip Contest w/ Miss Fellow & DJ

West CoastBabyDaddy Tue Free pool & tourna-

ment, DJ Arrowshaser Wed Hung Day w/ DJ

Seauxy Queen Thu Wet Undies contest w/ Mia

Fellow & DJ West CoastBabyDaddy Fri DJ Eddy

Toonfash Dance Party, no cover before 10 pm

Sat Undie Night (men only) free pool & tourna-

ment, DJ Arrowshaser

DANTE'S BISTRO 17328 Storytellers Road, 486

4448 — Fri Flirt Fridays text messaging singles

party Sat DJ Johnny Sly Info: www.dantes

decade.com

DECADENCE 10018-105 St. — Sat Soul Heaven

Saturdays w/ T-bass & Femme Funk First &

last Saturday of the month for event info call

990-1792 or www.eownravepage.com.

DEVIN'S 10507-82 Ave., 437-7489 — Happy

Hour until 7 pm every night!

DEWEY'S Powerplant (Up & At) — Every Mon

Margins of Sounds w/ Baggy and Pot-1, chills

beats, club reggae, hip hop

FILTHY McNASTY'S 10511-82 Ave. (upstairs),

437-7489 — Happy Hour Every Day 5-5 pm

Mon-Fri Mandays Twisted Trivia Wed

Bar college night Thu Punk Rock Bingo Fri

Sat Shake Ya Ass Weekend w/ DJ Serial K

(dance, rock, retro) Sun Industry night, half

price everything

HALO 10338 Jasper Ave., 423-4256 — Fri The

Mod Club - Soul, R&B, indie, Brit pop, new

wave, reggae & classic punk w/ DJs Blue Jay &

Troy Davis Sat For Those Who Know - deep house

w/ Junior Brown, Remo, Waylon Sherrington & Luke Munn

JAX'S 1215-118 Ave., 448-3650 — Fri Wharda

Saturday Soul Funk & Matt Hatter house

drum 'n' bass Sat DJ Nostalgia & guests, house

house, trance, trance NC Sun Free pool all day

JAX'S 1215-118 Ave., 448-3650 — Fri Wharda

Saturday Soul Funk & Matt Hatter house

drum 'n' bass Sat DJ Nostalgia & guests, house

house, trance, trance NC Sun Free pool all day

NEW CITY SUBURBS 10018, Jasper Ave., 429-4276 — Men Make It Mondays

— The Bingo Trasterhauser Bingo Sundays

w/ DJ Sire & Eric Miller

Events Night Sat Saturday Sucks w/ Nik

Rolexless & Blue Jay Sunday Live Wednesdays, 4

original bands

NIKKI DIAMONDS 8130 Gateway Blvd., down

stairs, 439-8004 — Wed Punk Night

Wednesdays

ON THE ROCKS 10318-104 St., 426-3150 — Thu

Gorgeous Hostess Dr. Lexi Tronic, drag kings &

queens, burlesque & rototones Sat All

request dance party w/ DJ Jazzy Sat Monthly

theme parties, DJ Jazzy upstairs (new music), DJ

Dan & Mike downstairs (retro music) Sun

Fabulous drag show every Sunday w/ Hostess

Connie Lingua & the Gay Game Show. Sun-

Sun & Thu, 8 pm - 3 pm; Fri & Sat, 8 pm - 4 pm

closed Mon-Wed. Info: www.theroostosite.com

TWILIGHT AFTERPARTIES 10018-105 St. — Fri

Flashback house/ard/w/ Johnny Dangerous,

Andy Inertia w/ guests Sat

IRNC/Incence/fun/w/ Jeff Hills, Stix, Big

Daddy, DTDR, Twerk!

UNION HALL Argyle & 99th, 702-0316 — Thu

Hi-Fi ball Night Fri Ladies Night Sat T'N' A

Saturday

VELVET UNDERGROUND 10030-102 St. — Tue

Tramwick Tuesdays - Punk Rock Wed Lushious

Wednesdays w/ The Ibots Thu NRMLs WLCM

w/ DJ Nik 7 Sun Where It's At Sundays w/ DJ

Sweetz, Propa & 2 Live Drew.

WUNDERBAR HOFBRAUHAUS 8120 - 101 St.,

436-2286 — Tue Hipster Twister Wed Round

One heat. DJ Toma & Aminder Brown Thu In &

Friday

THE HIDDEN CAMERAS POWERPLANT

Canadian indie-sensation Joel Gibb parades his glorious live

show from the frozen depths of E-town, with enough antics and

energy to justify braving the deep freeze. (U of A Campus)

THE SUMMER OF MY AMAZING LUCK ROXY THEATRE

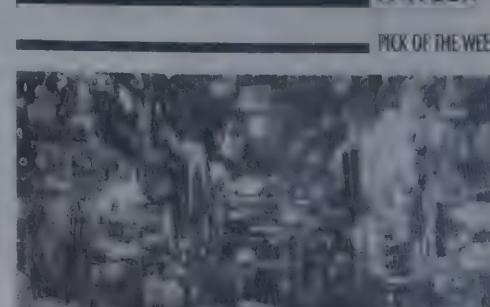
Chris Craddock's Sterling Award winning play returns, as Lucy

and her best friend Lish take the kids on a hilarious and heart-

breaking road trip. (10708-124 St.)

# EIGHT DAYS

PICK OF THE WEEK



GRAND BAZAAR METRO TOWN MARKET

Ever been to the dreaded Mall and thought: WTF? 300 stores and all this shit still looks the same! The hidden treasures and wrecks at the Grand Bazaar should remedy those seasonal shopping frustrations. AND there'll be mulled wine. Mmmmm. Dec 2 & 3 (9320-118 Ave.)

CELEBRATION OF ABORIGINAL LITERATURE RICE THEATRE

## GIGS AT A GLANCE

### THURSDAY 30

**NEW CITY** — Nezz Noland & Beard of Bass; **POWERPLANT** — That Guy w/ *sunrise*; **SIDETRACK CAFÉ** — 47 Ronin; Neil MacDonald & The Burnin' Sands; **STARUTE ROOM** — WinterSleep w/ Val Holen; **VELVET UNDERGROUND** — NRMLs WLCM w/ Shut Out Out Our's "Dude You Feel Electric" 12" Reissue; **WUNDERBAR HORFRUAHAUS** — Tocc; Agogo w/ Nervelworks; **Bell's OMNI CAFE** — Daniele French; **BLUES ON WHYTE** — Stephyche; **IRISH LOUNGE** — Some Blend of the Month; Red Room w/ The Omega

### FRIDAY 1

**AVENUE SKATEPARK** — Fort Knox Five w/ guests; **NEW CITY** — The Romantics w/ Cocktails & The New w/ KHZ — Thunderbird w/ DJ Ed & Merkin; **SIDETRACK CAFÉ** — The Uncos w/ The Foxes; us Beer tasters & The Scratches; **STARUTE ROOM** — Fear Factory w/ Substation Hypocry & Decapitated VELVET UNDERGROUND — Circle Drop w/ Seven Devil Fox; **BLUE CHAIR CAFÉ** — Dale Ladovcano & Al Brant; **BLUES ON WHYTE** — Stephyche; **FRENCH START CAFE** — Martin Kerr; **XWRECKS** — Slowburn; **FEARLESS CAFE** — *www.fearless.com*; **YARDIBRD SUITE** — Jehovah Jakkass; **CASINO EDMONTON** — *www.casinoedmonton.com*; **CASINO YELLOWHEAD** — Colleen Rose & *www.colleenrose.com*; **JEKYLL & HYDE PUB** — meadowind URBAN LOUNGE — *www.urbancanada.com*; **ALEXANDERS LOUNGE** — Eric Miller

### SATURDAY 2

**SIDETRACK CAFÉ** — Nick Parrot CD Release w/ The Smokes, Will Peville & The Kirk; **STARUTE ROOM** — Radiowcano w/ Emese E & The Hidden Gemz; **Jesse Dee Thess**; **VELVET UNDERGROUND** — Les Georges Leningrad &

Out feat; DJ Paul & Frank Fri & Sat Local DJs & bands Sun DJ Regan & co. w/ Irance, dance & raves styles  
**Y AFTERHOURS** 10028-102 St., [alley entrance] — Fri Foundation Fridays - hard house/garage/breaks w/ N.E. Ryan Wade, Steven M. Bre, Dragon, Nestor Delano, Tourette, Johnny Dangerous, Tiania J. Sat: Release Saturday: funky/electro/hard house/techno/w/ Luke Morrison, Tony Donohue, Erin Eden, Donovan, Tony P. Rob Tryphonome, Brian Doyle, Derkin, Tras Maleeson

### TOP 40

**180° RESTAURANT & NIGHTCLUB** 10730-107 Ave, 403-0233 — Every Thu Hip Hop & open mic; Fri Steady Friday; Every Sat Dance Hall rego night by Generations; Fri Xmas & DJ Pooche w/ G-Unit Soloists  
**BAR NONE** 10405-82 Ave, 432-5058 — Drink special w/ night Fri & Sat  
**BILLIARD CLUB** 10200, 10505-82 Ave, 432-0335 — Billiards; Tuesdays Live DJ, drink specials  
**BLIND DUCK** 10416-118 Ave, 479-7193 — Wed & Fri DJ Grand Master Rich Carr  
**CAFE SELECT** 10018-106 St., 426-1629 — Fri DJ Socks & Tryphonome  
**CAUGHTY NIGHT CLUB** 10815 Jasper Ave, 425-0830 — The Urban Substance Ladies Night w/ Urban Substance Sound Crew featuring DJs Invincible, Shortround, Echo, SpinCycle, Baby Girl & Touch It! Fun Friday Fridays w/ DJ Invincible, Bomb Squad, Weapon X & Baby Girl Sat/Sun Outlaws; Sun Ladies Night w/ DJ Invincible; Wed Old Skool w/ DJ Shoko Seon, DJ Si & DJ Instigate, Tue Beauchamp Tuesdays reggae night w/ Bomb Squad; Q.B., Chrome Nine & weekly guest DJs; **CELI'S IRISH PUB** 10238-109 St., 426-5555 — Mon Get Your Funk On w/ Quiko Funkin Cinco De Mayo Sat Various Fundraisers, Wed Hot Wheels  
**CHASE NIGHTCLUB** 10345-101 St., 969-6969 — Tues Calypso & Latin dance Fri Strosi Friday, R&B, hip hop & reggae  
**CHAMMY'S** 8318-144 Ave, 478-1770 — Sat Ladies Night, Top 40 Sun Happy hour all day, free pool  
**CLAREVIEW PUB** 132 Ave & Victoria Tr., 414-1111 — Tues & Thur Karaoke Wed DJ Lex & DJ Fiore Sun Dj Fiore plays today's hottest hits & yesterday's classics NC ever!  
**CRYSTAL LODGE** 10333 Jasper Ave, 426-7521 — Fri Fundraiser Night, call 990-3692 for bookings; Saturday Legendary Urban Saturdays - R&B, hip hop, reggae, soca w/DJ Invincible & MC JMoney, \$8.

**ELEVATION LOUNGE** 10309-81 Ave, [upstairs], 433-4979 — DJ AP4 playing the best of Top 40 & retro music all week long Wed Guest benders Tues Sat; Soho Night, 8 pm NC.  
**ESCAPE ULTRA LOUNGE** WEM, 489-1330 — Wed Wild On Wednesdays; Ladies Night Fri; Escape live in concert. Info: [www.escapeclub.ca](http://www.escapeclub.ca)

**FEVER** West Edmonton Mall, Phase 3 — Wed Industry Night Fri DJ Shoker Sat Saturday Night Fever; Info: [www.levellingclub.com](http://www.levellingclub.com)

**FUNKY BUDDHA** 10341-82 Ave — Tue Cool Latin Tuesdays, dance lessons of 8 pm.

**GALLERY LOUNGE** Mayfield Inn, 1065-1109 Ave., 930-4061 — The Rock 'n' Roll Trivia Fri & Sat DJ Roy.

**GAZ PUMP** 10166-114 St., 488-4841 — Fri & Sat DJ Jon John.

**OPEN CONCERT** 10018-104 St., 472-6324 — **Ice RETRO NIGHT** hosted by Shere Fri Top 40 Request w/ a mix of Retro & Disco; Info: Jam & Carter SHOT D Sat 1-5 pm & 8-7 pm —midnight top 40 Request w/ a mix of Retro & Disco; Hosted by Special K & Shere Sun 1-5 pm, top 40 Request w/ a mix of Retro & Disco; Hosted by Special K Info: [www.sports-world.ca](http://www.sports-world.ca)

**STOLZ'S** 10368-82 Ave, 437-2293 — Sun House Arrest w/ Johnny Dangerous, Andy Inertia w/ guest Wed Wild Cherry Wednesdays w/

Duchess Says; **XXTREME ZONE ROLLER DINK** — Border Patrol Roller Derby Bout w/ The Igniters, **BLUE CHAIR CAFE** — Riverside Skuggers, **BLUES ON WHYTE** — Stephyche; **OVERTURE** — Water Lucy, **JEFFRIES CAFE** — Paul Ledding, **YARDIBRD SUITE** — Alain Caron & Francois Bourassa, **CASINO EDMONTON** — Saddle Ridge, **CASINO YELLOWHEAD** — Colleen Rose & Cornerstone, **JEKYLL & HYDE PUB** — Headwind; **URBAN LOUNGE** — Vacation On Mars

### SUNDAY 3

**NEW CITY** — New Model Army (UK) w/ Stick Figure, **SIDETRACK CAFÉ** — *www.dudemon.com* w/ Comedy Factory Show & Third Person View, **BLUES ON WHYTE** — The Hardline Blues Band w/ The River City Horns, **RIVERSIDE BAR & GRILL** — The Red Ants, **ATLANTIC TRAP & GILL** — Slawburn.

### MONDAY 4

**BLUES ON WHYTE** — Brent Parkin, **LIVEWIRE BAR & GRILL** — N. Gary Thomas & guests, **SECOND CUP GATEWAY PLAZA** — Ron Taylor, **FILTHY McNASTY'S** — Greenhouse Tragedy CD release w/ Down the Hatch, **O'BRYNES IRISH PUB** — DJ Angus & Dan Berner Trio w/ Bob Tilley

### TUESDAY 5

**AVENUE SKATEPARK** — Blind Witness w/ All Else Fails & They Evolve, **SIDETRACK CAFÉ** — Dresden Raw w/ Everyother & Black Notice, **BLUES ON WHYTE** — Brent Parkin, **O'BRYNES IRISH PUB** — Tus Irish jam session w/ Shirron Johnson.

### WEDNESDAY 6

**POWERPLANT** — The Hidden Camerots w/ The Barn Ruffians, **SIDETRACK CAFÉ** — *www.dudemon.com*, **BLUES ON WHYTE** — Brent Parkin, **HUBLBERT'S** — Wobbly Wednesday w/ dj Frederick, **URBAN LOUNGE** — Keep Six w/ Black Berry Traffic, **O'BRYNES IRISH PUB** — Chris Wynters.

### THURSDAY 7

**THE GUILTY MARTINI SOUTH** 10338-81 Ave, 433-7183 — The Urban Substance Thursdays w/ Invincible, J-Money, Shortround & Echo Sat Supreme Saturdays w/ Invincible, Big Sun & DJ Game. Open Sunday long weekends, Live DJ every night

**THE NEW RUM PHASE II** WEM, 486-9494 — The Urban Substance Fri & Sat Top 40 Sunday

**SUNDAYS** *www.dudemon.com* — Fri Saturday Party Karaoke Night.

**THE TROT** 10230-102 Ave, 428-3733 — Sat Saturday Party Karaoke Night.

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**DICKIN' SECRETARIES** The Secretaries bash it up with The Uncas and The Fabulous Bee Feeders at the Sidetrack Cafe on Fri, Dec 1. See Live Music.

0900 - Jam session 9 pm, hosted by Brian

Finn

11 BAR 4003 104 St., 436-4403 — Open 8 pm - 30 pm, hosted by The Poster Boys.

1055 PUB 7450 82 Ave., 465-4046 — Open mic

1055 CYBER CAFE & ESPRESSO BAR 10354

Water Ave., 425-9730 — Open Stage 8 pm,

reading your instruments, poetry, etc.

NORTH GLENORA COMMUNITY LEAGUE 13535-

NAVA Ave. — Jam session 7 pm, hosted by the

Wild Rose Old Time Fiddlers Association.

Info: 0457-9417.

THE BUND DUCK 1041-6-18 Ave., 479-7193 —

Open stage hosted by Loren Burnstick, 9:30 pm

- 0900

## FRIDAY

GOBBLE GOBBLE 12831 Fort Rd. — 8 pm - 1 am,

hosted by Jay

WOODCUT HALL 13915-115 Ave. — Last Fri of

the month, 7:30 pm, hosted by the Uptown Folk

Club

0900

## SATURDAY

BLIND PIG PUB St. Albert, 418-6332 — Open

Stage 3 - 8:30 pm, Acoustic jam 8 pm

CHIMMY'S 8318 144 Ave. 478-1770 — Open

stage jams 3 - 7 pm.

JASPER PLACE HOTEL 15303 Stony Plain Rd., 489-

1906 — Open Stage, 3 - 6 pm

MORANGO'S TEK CAFE 10118-79 St. — 7 pm -

10 pm, hosted by Tommy. Info: www.morango-

tekcafes.com

NEW WEST TAVERN 111 Ave. & 151 St. —

Afternoon jam session at 3 pm.

THE DRUID 11606 Jasper Ave., 454-9928 — 2 pm

- 6 pm. All ages open mic

## SUNDAY

BLIND PIG PUB St. Albert, 418-6332 — Afternoon

jam w/ Carmen

CARGO & JAMES TEA SHOPPE 10634-82 Ave. —

Open Stage 7 - 10 pm hosted by Rhoda March

JASPER PLACE HOTEL 15326 Stony Plain Rd., 480-

6444 — Open Stage hosted by Bruce Fox, 3 -

7 pm.

**NEWCASTLE PUB & GRILL** 6108-90 Ave., 490-1999 — Open Stage w/ Willie James & Crowdad, 3 pm - 6 pm

**NIKKI DIAMONDS** 8130 Gateway Blvd., 439-8004 — Open Jam w/ Mike

**O'BYRNES IRISH PUB** 10616-82 Ave., 414-6766 — Open Stage hosted by Joe Bird, 9 pm

**WUNDERBAR** 8120-101 St., 436-2286 — Open stage country jamboree w/ Rob Johns

## MONDAY

**KINGSWAY LEGION** 10425 Kingsway — 7 pm Capital City Jammers

**LB'S PUB** 23 Atkins Dr., St. Albert 409-9100 — Mon Open stage w/ LB's house band

**PLEASANTVIEW HALL** 10860-57 Ave. — 7 pm

Acoustic Instrumental old time fiddle jam hosted by the Wild Rose Old Time Fiddlers Society Info: Willy @ 474-5270

**RIGOLETTO'S CAFE** 10068-108 St. — 7 pm

**SIDETRACK CAFE** 10333-112 St., 421-1236

Every Mon 8:30 pm, featuring Ben Spencer, NC

**THE DRUID SOUTH** 2940 Calgary Trail, 465-6800 — Open Stage w/ Chris Wyniers, 9 pm

## TUESDAY

**BLIND PIG PUB** St. Albert, 418-6332 — Evening

jam w/ Annmar

**LEGENDS PUB** 6104-172 St., 481-2786 — Open

jam night

**SECOND CUP** Churchill Square — 7:30 pm hosted by Ron Taylor

**THE DRUID** 11606 Jasper Ave., 454-9928 — Chris

Wyniers house open stage at 9 pm

**YARDBIRD SUITE** 10203-86 Ave., 432-0428 — Jam sessions 9 pm

## WEDNESDAY

**ATLANTIC TRAP & GILL** 7704-104 St., 432-4611 — Open mic 8 pm, hosted by Duff

**BUDS LOUNGE** Grandin Plaza, St. Albert, 458-3826 — Acoustic jam 8 pm

**CAFE BRITT** 1-20 McLeod Ave., Spruce Grove — Every Wed, 7-9 pm Hosted by Eric Miller

**FIDDLER'S ROOST** 8906-99 St. — 8 pm, Little

Flower Open Stage w/ Brian Gregg \$2 cover, doors open 7 pm. Info: www.littlefiddler.ca or 429-3224

**PLEASANTVIEW HALL** 10860-57 Ave. — Bluegrass

jam session 7:30 pm hosted by the Northern

Blueprints Circle Music Society. Info: 434-5997

**ROSSDALE COMMUNITY HALL** 10123-96 Ave. —

Little Flower open stage 8 - 11 pm, hosted by Brian Gregg. Info: 429-3624 or www.little-

flower.ca

**ROYAL CANADIAN BRANCH** 10220-156 St. —

Open stage jam, 9 pm - The Dio Dominelli

Hof Five.

**THE LOCKER ROOM** 10209-100 Ave. — Open

Stage for comedians & musicians

**THE NEW TAPHOUSE** 9020 McKinney Ave., St.

Albert, 480-0860 — Jam session 9 pm, hosted by Danny Floyd.

## KARAOKE

## OPEN CASTING CALL

We're a cable production company with TV series airing all over the world and we're looking for undiscovered talent right here in Edmonton. Come and meet our talent scouts Tuesday, December 5th at 8pm at Fluid Lounge (10105 - 109 Street) and be part of our latest series. **Earn up to \$1000** per day plus very generous residuals. No previous acting experience necessary but you must be 18 years or older as Fluid is a licensed joint and our shows are intended for adults only.

MIND ENGINE ENTERTAINMENT

**ALBERT'S** 9308-34 Ave — Tue, 9 pm, Prosound Productions

**B-STEP BAR** 11818-111 Ave., 414-0545 — Wed - Sun w/ Brad Scott

**BILLY BOB'S LOUNGE** Continental Inn, 16625 Stony Pl Rd., 484-7751 — Thu-Sat, Karaoke

w/ Ed & Tara

**BLUE QUILK** 32 St Anne St, St. Albert 418-6332 — Karaoke every Wed, Thu & Fri

**BLUE QUILK** 326 Saddleback Rd., 434-3124 — Fri & Sat

**BO-DIDDLY'S PUB & GRILL** 4274-137 Ave, 476-1919 or 377-0219 — Thu w/ Mr Entertainment

**BO-DIDDLY'S PUB & GRILL** 23 Ave 23 Ave & 66 St., Millwoods Centre — Thu, 9:30 pm w/ Mr Entertainment

**BORDERLINE PUB** 3226-82 St., 462-1886 — Thu 9:30 pm - 1:30 am

**BOSTON PIZZA BEVERLY** 38003 - 18 Ave — Sat, pm - 1 am w/ Mr Entertainment

**BOSTON PIZZA NAT'** 101 Prince, Etsabreith Ave — Wed, 9 pm - 1 am w/ Mr Entertainment

**BROTHERS PUB** 101100-1250 106 Ave Blvd Shwd Park

— Sun, 9:30 pm - 1:30 am

**BUD'S LOUNGE** Capilano Mall, 98 Ave & 50 St — Fri & Sat, 9 pm - 1:30 am w/ Mr Entertainment

**BUD'S LOUNGE** Londonderry 66 St & 137 Ave — Fri, 9 pm w/ Mr Entertainment

**CASSELOWS PUB** 14620-50 St., 473-1010 — Wed, 9:30 pm - 12 am

**CASLETON'S PUB** 16753-100 St. — Tue, 9 pm - 1 am, w/ Off Key Entertainment

**CHATEAU ON THE HILL** Beaumont — Fri, 9 pm w/ Mr Entertainment

**CHICAGO JOE'S** 9604-111 Ave, 479-4040 — Fri w/ Spoonz n' Toonz

**CHIMMY'S** 8318-144 Ave, 478-1770 — Thu & Fri, 9 pm w/ Wild Kenny

**CHRISTOPHER'S PUB** 37 Millbourne Rd — Tue, 9 pm w/ Sonja/Prosound Productions

**CRAVEVIEW PUB** 104, 550 Clareview Rd., 414-1111 — Tue, 10 pm - 2 am w/ Mr Entertainment

**CUFF CLAYJAN** 9710-105 St., 424-1614 — Fri & Sat, 10 pm - 2 am

**CLIFF'S PUB & PARTY** 175 St & 88 Ave — Sat & Sun w/ Spoons & Toonz Entertainment

**GRAND & ANCHOR** 15277-113 St. — Thu, 9 pm w/ Shaw Donaldson

**DOC'S LOUNGE** 15203 Stony Plain Rd., 486-1100 — Wed, Fri & Sat, 9:30 - 1:30 am

**DOYLE'S PUB** 2619-151 Ave., 473-1961 — Fri & Sat, 9:30 pm

**FOX PUB** 9065-66 Ave — Mon, 9 pm w/ Sonja/Prosound Productions

**GAS PUMP** 10166-114 St., 488-4841 — Tue & Wed, 9 pm - 2 am, w/ Gord's Live Jukebox

**HOPO SPORTS BAR & LOUNGE** 10044-82 Ave., 435-5792 — Thu, Fri, Sat & Sun

**HAWKEYE'S T-100** 10044-107 St., 101-2324 — Fri, 8 pm - 12 am, w/ Deb Thulin - Hot Karaoke Pod

**HILLVIEW PUB** 311 Woodvale Rd. W., Millwoods, 482-0468 — Fri, 9 pm - 1 am w/ Mr Entertainment

**LOCKER ROOM** 10209-100 Ave, 428-6444 — Mon & Fri

**MAZADAR** 10725-104 Ave — Fri, 9 pm w/ Chico Inka, 429-4740

**METRO BILLIARDS** 10260-106 St., 941-0704 — Tue, 10 pm - 2 am w/ Change, 215-1515

**MICHAEL'S** 11730 Jasper Ave., 482-4177 — Mon w/ Mr Entertainment

**MILTON'S CAFE & BAR** 10235-124 St., 451-8188 — Fri, Sat, Starts at 4 pm

**MOJO'S FORT SASK** Best Western Hotel 10115-88

Ave, Fri, 9:30 pm w/ Sonja/Prosound Productions

**MONA USA PUB** 9065-180 Ave, 477-7752 — Every Wed, 9 pm - 1 am hosted by Cathy, Sat w/ Jason

**MUGGINZ PUB** 6655-178 St — Wed & Sat

**NEWCASTLE PUB & GRILL** 6108-90 Ave., 490-1999 — Thu, 9 pm, w/ Devon Lane & Britney

**NIKKI DIAMONDS** 8130 Gateway Blvd. — Mon, 9 pm - 1 am w/ Gord from Stone Rock Entertainment

**O'CONNOR'S IRISH PUB** 9013-88 Ave, 469-8165 — Thu, 9 pm - 1 am

**ON THE ROCK** 11740 Jasper Ave., 482-4767 — Mon, 9:30 pm, Drink the Bar Dry Karaoke w/ Scott Parsons & Mr Entertainment

**ORLANDO'S I** 15163-121 St., 457-1955 — Every

Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat, 9 pm - 1 am w/ Mr Entertainment

**ORLANDO'S II** 13509-127 St., 451-7799 — Tue & Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat, 9 pm - 1 am w/ Mr Entertainment

**ORLANDO'S III** 6104-104 St. — Mon, 9 pm - 1 am, w/ Off Key Entertainment

**OVERLAND LOUNGE** 10260 St. Albert Tr. — Fri, 9 pm - 1 am Sat, 9 pm - 1 am w/ Off-Key

**PARKLAND PUB** 30-53222 RR 272, Spruce Grove 960-6871 — Every Sun, 9 pm - 1 am, starting Sep 17, Karaoke contest, 1st prize \$600

**PEPPERS** 320 Westmount Centre, 113 Ave. & 135 St., 451-8022 — Thu, 9:30 pm - 1:30 am w/ Gord from Stone Rock Entertainment

**PLAYBACK PUB** 594 Heritage Rd., 473-2309 — Thu 9 pm hosted by Catty, cash prizes

meetsonetonight.com

Entertainment

**HOLIDAY INN** 4520-76 Ave — Thu, 8:30 pm, w/ Prosound Productions

**HORSHU LOUNGE** 137 Ave & 58 St — Mon & Sat, 10 pm w/ Mr Entertainment

**INGLEWOOD PUB** 12402-118 Ave., 451-1390 — Thu - Sat, 9:30 pm - 2 am w/ Mu Entertainment

**JD'S POOL PUB** 6825-83 St., 413-1883 — Thu & Fri, 9 pm

**JUGS PUB** 7450-82 Ave, 465-4046 — Sat, 9 pm w/ Mr Entertainment

**KELLY'S** 11540 Jasper Ave., 451-8825 — Sun & Wed

**KINGSKNIGHT PUB** 9221-34 Ave, 433-2599 — Thu, Smirking Joy 9 pm

**KNIGHTS PUB** 11801 145 Ave — Tue, Thu & Sat

**KNIGHTS PUB SOUTH** 1919 105 St., 461-0587 — Fri & Sat, 10 pm - 2 am w/ Gord's Live Jukebox

**KOSMOS** 3011 150 Ave, 865-1000 — Wed, 9 pm w/ Gord's Live Jukebox

**LA PERLE BAR & GRILL** 9746-82 St., 930-1127 — Wed, 9 pm w/ Gord's Live Jukebox

**LE GLOBE** 449-104 St., Story Rd., 484-2121 — Mon, Tues, Thurs, Sat, 9 pm

**LEGENDS PUB** 103-504-17 St., 478-1768 — Wed, 9 pm w/ Gord's Live Jukebox

**LOCKER ROOM** 10209 100 Ave, 428-6444 — Mon & Fri

**MAZADAR** 10725 104 Ave — Fri, 9 pm w/ Gord's Live Jukebox

**MCNALLY'S** 101-109 St., 457-1955 — Mon, 9 pm w/ Gord's Live Jukebox

**MILTON'S CAFE & BAR** 10235-124 St., 451-8188 — Mon, 9 pm w/ Gord's Live Jukebox

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Alberta 499 1528 — Hours: Mon - Sat, 10 am - 5 pm; Sun 1 - 5 pm Admission: Suggested donation \$3  
ARTIST CONSERVATORY 9626-96A St. — Info: 430-9730  
MAD CYBER CAFE 10354 Jasper Ave. — Info: 474-1171 — Mon - Fri, 10 am - 2:30 pm; Sat & Sun 8 - 8 pm. Info: www.ninohog.com  
MONA MAGGOTTE CENTRE 9702-111 Ave., 474-1171 — Mon - Fri, 10 am - 2:30 pm; Sat & Sun 8 - 8 pm. Info: www.ninohog.com  
ONTARIO GALLERY 212 St., 439-6943 — Sat & Sun 12 - 5 pm.  
BRYANT ROBERTSON GALLERY 10183-112 St. — Mon & 14 Group show, featuring new landscape photography. Hardy. Hours: Tues-Sat 10 am - 5 pm; Sun 8 am - 8 pm.  
ZOCALO 10826-92 St., 428-0754 — Hours: Mon Wed, 9 am - 6 pm, Thu - Fri, 9 am - 9 pm; Sun 12 - 5 pm.

**WILDWOOD GALLERY** 5410-60 St. Wildwood, 325-3904 — Features an eclectic collection of unique original works in metal, wood & clay. Hours: 11 am - 5 pm daily.  
**WORKS GALLERY** 10155 Jasper Ave., Main Floor — Info: 426-2122 or www.theworks.ca  
**ZIEGLER HUGHES GALLERY & SERENDIPITY FRAMING** 9860-90 Ave., 433-0388 — Acrylic and Mexican jewellery & art works by Canadian and Mexican artists and artisans. Hours: Tues & Wed, 10 am - 6 pm; Thu & Fri, 10 am - 9 pm; Sat, Noon - 8 pm; Sun & Mon, Noon - 5 pm.  
**ZOCALO** 10826-92 St., 428-0754 — Hours: Mon Wed, 9 am - 6 pm, Thu - Fri, 9 am - 9 pm; Sun 12 - 5 pm.

## MUSEUMS

**ALBERTA AVIATION MUSEUM** 11410 Kingway Ave., 427-7590 — Until Jan 25 A Joyful Aircraft exhibition. 100 people, places and organisations that have defined Jewish life in southern Alberta since 1889. Hours: Tues - Sat 9 am - 5 pm; Wed 9 am - 9 pm.  
**DEER ALIED ARTS COUNCIL GALLERY** 4930 97 Red Deer 403-341-4641 —  
**ESTATE MARKET** 10305 97 St., 497-2211 — Dec 31 Reny Hart presents The Woodpecker, a show & sale of new works featuring some of the most unusual & rare members of the animal kingdom. Hours: Tues - Sun, 10 am - 5 pm.  
**EDWARD & COMPANY** 10730-103 St., 426-4035 — Featuring over 100 Western Canadian artists — acrylic, water-colour painting, bronze, encaustic media, mouse enameled carvings & more. Western acrylic by Kathryn Symon. Stone Place: water colours & acrylics by Frances Ally-orscott. Sun Life Place: oils by George Schmidt & acrylics by Yi Ching. Hours: Tues - Sun 9 am - 5 pm; Sat, Noon - 5 pm. Info: www.rowles.ab.ca  
**ROYAL ALBERTA MUSEUM** 12845-102 Ave., 453-5000 —  
**BUTTERFORD SOUTH LIBRARY** U of A Campus — Mon - Fri, 12 pm - 4:30 pm.  
**EDDIE GALLERY** 10137-104 St., 423-4484 — Tues, Tue, Sat, 10 am - 7 pm.  
**EDDIE GALLERY** 0411 124 St. — Until Dec 23 Sat. Eddie's 20th Anniversary exhibition, including works by all contributing gallery owners. Info: 489-3619 or www.eddiegallery.com.  
**EDDIE POTTERY STUDIO** 984-88 Ave., 439-9216 — Dec 2-3, 11 am - 5 pm Annual Winter Greenhouse exhibition featuring majolica, translucent porcelain, and kitchen friendly fired pottery. Info: www.selfridgedecoramic.ca  
**EDDIEPUTTY GALLERY** 9860-90 Ave., 433-0388 — New oils by Rhonda Harder-Epp, watercolours by Frederick Peter R.C.A., ceramics by Mourne Lwambwa-Tshang, collages by Siya Grati and new ceramics by Debra Deters-Bryan.  
**EDDY GALLERY** Society of Northern Alberta Printers 10309-97 St., 423-1492 — Hours: Tues Sat, Noon - 5 pm. Info: shop@eddyprinters.com  
**EDITION ART GALLERY** 9418 91 St. — Featuring 20th Century Canadian artists. Hours: Tues - Sat, 10 am - 9 pm.

**EDNA HILLIER LIBRARY GALLERY** Sir Winston Churchill Square, 496-7063 — Until Nov 20 Bookending: Materials & Techniques 10-1920 Developed by the Canadian Bookbinders and Book Arts Guild.  
**GRANDE CITY** 10522-82 Ave. — Info: 431-2004.  
**ALBERT PAINTER'S GUILD** St Albert Place, #5 St. Andrews  
**CARLTON COUNTY MUSEUM & ARCHIVES** 914-8 St. Sherwood Park 476-8189 — Hours: Mon-Fri 10 am - 4 pm. Info: www.carltoncounty.museum.ca  
**DRUGS GALLERY** 111 Perron St., St. Albert, 460-5997 — Until Dec 31 "Small Works" by Studio 20. Hours: Tues - Sat, 10 am - 5 pm; Sat, 10 am - 4 pm. By appointment. 460-5999.  
**EDUCATIONAL WORLD OF SCIENCE** (AKA Edmonton's Space & Science Centre) 11211-142 St., 451-2044 — Permanent Exhibits: The Body Fantastic, Mystery Avenue, The Green's House, Space Place, Discovery & Dine/Do in the Equator Gallery, Syncrude Science Stage, Acer, Demos, Optogenetics, Electricity, What Are You Fizz in Soda Pop?, 451-3344, www.ewos.ca  
**EMBELLISH DECOR** 10135-82 Ave., 434-2414 — French art by Razzi, tile art tiles, custom artwork, art by Richard Dixon, & vintage neon flexible signs. Hours: Tues - Sat, 12 pm - 5 pm.  
**ENRAGATA BARNES** 10300-84 Ave. — Hours: 11 am - 8 pm.  
**FAIRY GALLERY** 10718-124 St. — Info: 452-9662 or www.fairygallery.ca  
**MANICURE** 0143-82 Ave. — By appointment. Info: 439-7079.  
**FLAMMAGALLERY** Visual Arts Alberta Association, 221-112 St., 421-1731 — Until Dec 23 Spectrum works by Lundy Dale, Pam Weber & Torrie Krebs.  
FOOTAGE IMAGES GALLERY 14224-Stony Plain Road — Info: 414-0866.  
WEST END GALLERIES 2305 Jasper Ave. — Info: 414-4999.

To attend an event, register online at [www.2lastlife.ca](http://www.2lastlife.ca)

**FAVA ORBNA ARMOURY**, 9722-102 St., 429-1671 — Every Mon - 7 - 10 pm. Monday Night Club screenwriters, directors & actors workshop a screen for camera Call 429-1671 or visit [fava.ca](http://www.fava.ca)

**HIP MAMAS MEET-UP GROUP** — A group of young mothers and their babies meet several times a week for activities and attend events together. Free to join plenty of friends to make into hipmama meetup.com/151.

**IMAGES ALBERTA CAMERAS CLUB** — 2nd & 4th Thu of the month, 8 pm Allendale School 6415 - 106 St. Informative, entertaining presentations speakers workshops outings, monthly and year-end competitions. Photographic enthusiasts of all levels welcome. Visit [www.imagesab.ca](http://www.imagesab.ca) for further info see [www.imagesab.ca](http://www.imagesab.ca) or call 434-5775.

**JUBILEE TOASTMASTERS CLUB** — Every Tues 7 pm. Country Restaurant, 1207-108 Ave. Gain confidence hone your communication skills one-on-one or with groups. Info: [www.jubileetm.com](http://www.jubileetm.com)

**LADIES COFFEE NIGHT** — Every Wed, 7 pm. Queen Westmount Village Meeting to stop oppression & raise awareness of women's rights. Info: 637-6611.

**NORWOOD TOASTMASTERS CLUB** 11150 82 St. — Every Thu, 8-10 pm. Improve public speaking & communication skills. Info: 424-2707 or [www.norwoodtm.com](http://www.norwoodtm.com)

**OPPORTUNITIES UNLIMITED NETWORKING** GROUP Edmonton Chamber of Commerce #600, 1201 23 St. — Every Fri, 6:45 - 8:30 am. Develop new business relationships and keynote speaker Terry Scherry. Admission \$2, everyone welcome. Info: 426-4820

**OXFAM CANADA** University of Alberta, Tary 4-10

— Every second Wed of the month, 6:30 pm Human rights based group that works on social justice issues through education & advocacy info: [ed@oxfam.ca](mailto:ed@oxfam.ca)

**PARAGON TOASTMASTERS CLUB** Downtown —

Every Thu noon - 1 pm Improve your listening thinking & speaking skills. Info: 427-0552 or 905-6803.

**POWER SPEAKERS TOASTMASTERS CLUB** — Every Wed 7 pm - 9 pm MacEwan Centre for the Arts, 10045-156 St. Rm 437 Develop effective public speaking & communication skills in a fun dynamic & supportive environment. Info: 430-312

**PURSUERS TOASTMASTERS CLUB** — Every Wed, 7 pm Best Western - Cedar Inn, Calgary Trail & 51 Ave. Become more confident speaking to groups & individuals through our proven program. Info: [www.pursuers.org](http://www.pursuers.org)

**SCREENWRITERS CIRCLE** Fava Site — First Tue of every month, 7:30 pm. Established & budding screenwriters discuss craft & share works-in-progress. Info: 429-1671 or visit [www.fava.ca](http://www.fava.ca)

**SUPPORT GROUP FOR THOSE LIVING WITH THE MENTALLY ILL** — Cornerstone Counselling Centre, 11111 Jasper Ave., 482-6215. First & third Wed of each month, 7 pm

**THE OUTSIDERS SUPPORT GROUP** — Every Wed 7 - 8:30 pm. A support group for families and friends of loved ones who are isolated or on parole. Providing emotional support & a place to share. Info: 471-1122

**TOASTMASTERS CLUB** 7103-105 St. — Every Tue 7 pm. Speaking & leadership training. Info: 454-1915

**UPWARD BOUND TOASTMASTERS** Rm 601 Non-Profit Club, 12015-18 St. — Every Wed 7 pm. Improve your public speaking skills. Info: 477-2613 or [www.ean.ca](http://www.ean.ca)

**WEST END TOASTMASTER CLUB** "COMMUNICA-

TION AND LEADERSHIP" 10451-170 St. Rear Entrances, Main Floor Boardroom — Every Tue, 7 - 9 pm. Communication involves many skills, giving opportunities for feedback and public speaking. Info: [www.kmc.ca](http://www.kmc.ca) or the Boardroom. Support of personal growth and progress & mutual support during half hour weekly meetings. Info: 495-5424.

**YOUNG ADULTS MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS SUPPORT GROUP** Knox Metropolitan United Church 8307 109 St. — Every third Thu of the month the Edmonton Chapter of the MS Society is offering a support group for people in their 20s and 30s who have MS and their family & friends. Info: 471-3034

**YOUNG MEN'S ADVANCEMENT SOCIETY** — An you between the ages of 18-26 and want to improve your life? For info on the society call 604-542-1000.

## ACTIVISM

**AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL** Knox Metropolitan Church 83 St. Ave. Welcome info: 452-1871

**ANARCHIST READING CIRCLE DISCUSSION GROUP** First Arts Building, lounge at bottom. 3rd floor, 107 St. — Every Sunday 1 pm

**Every Sunday** — Meet to discuss various topics. This is a political discussion group. It is open to anyone who wants to learn about politics and the world around us. Info: 429-1671 or visit [www.jubileetm.com](http://www.jubileetm.com)

**BIKE WORKS** — Fix your own bike! 107 St. — Every Sat 1 pm. Bicycle Commuters' BikeWorks is entirely run by volunteers, full hours are Wed 5 - 9 pm and Sat 12 - 3 pm. Info: 477-2613 or [www.bikeworks.ca](http://www.bikeworks.ca)

**COUNCIL OF CANADIANS** — Every third Wed of

28 Love, Latin-style  
29 \_\_\_\_ Named Scooby-Doo" (cartoon spinoff of 1988)

30 Ultrafast jets, for short  
31 A little, in sheet music

32 Dumper emanation

33 Clew weapon

34 Don on the waves

35 Drunks before food

40 Office Depot competitor

41 Chests content

42 Place to get up and speak your mind

43 Buds

47 Pull violently

48 Author with a Moscow park named after him

49 Soup kitchen server

50 Sonn Olympics equipment

51 Slalom curves

52 \_\_\_\_ Matzo (duo with the 1997 EP "Super Relax")

53 Team with a yoke

54 40-plus-year-old NBC soap, to fans

55 Cheer (for)

56 Asian salad ingredient

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(editor@jonesincrosswords.com)

**JONESIN' CROSSWORD** by Matt Jones

## Wii Are Not Amused

Taking PS3 literally

### ACROSS

1 GM bought half of it in 1990

5 Spreads seeds

9 Bits of parsley

14 Desmond Desmond

15 State —

16 Rash

17 Eyes, to Eduardo

18 From the top

19 Simon's brother

20 Childhood disease beats out a runny nose?

23 It often comes with a battery

24 Network replaced by the CW

25 Get?

26 All there

28 \_\_\_\_ in "Adam"

31 Sight at a backstabbing family reunion?

36 Character not computer-animated in the "Garfield" movies

37 Noise from a goat pen

38 Make a pifflid face

39 Crime show still goes over the heads of criminals?

44 Get a lode of it

45 Throw (out)

46 Regatta member

47 Path

48 Christ lived there

52 Army group does away with their famous song? (careful!)

56 Dot on a monitor

57 Contestant's choice on "Match Game"

58 Ominous date

59 With a BMI 30 or higher

60 Half of a famous bed-in

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14					15				16				
17						18			19				
20					21				22				
23									24				
					25				26			27	
31	32	33				34				35			
36					37				38				
39					40	41			42	43			
44					45				46				
					47				48		49	50	51
52	53					54	55						
56						57					58		
59						60					61		
62						63					64		

the month. An independent, public interest organization that works to promote economic justice, environmentalism and Canadian issues. Info: 1-800-429-4504

#### EDMONTON SANAM PRESS ASSOCIATION —

Every third Wed, 7 pm. ESPA is an activist arts organization with members from many countries. Always seeking socially conscious artists, and production volunteers. Info: 434-2926 or [www.espa.ca](http://www.espa.ca)

#### INDUSTRIAL WORKERS OF THE WORLD — Second

The first and third Thurs, 7 pm - 2:42, Humanities Building, U of A Campus. Meetings are open to the public. Info: [industrial.iwtw.ca](http://industrial.iwtw.ca)

#### MADOLEINE SANAM FOUNDATION — Sainte-Saint-Jean, 8406-91 St, Room 3-18 — Every third & fourth Sat of the month, 9 am - 5 pm. An organization that promotes the emancipation and autonomy of African women through programs on economy, community radio and community health. Offers training on HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment and harm reduction in French, English and other African languages. Admission free for members, membership \$10. Call 490-7332 to register.

#### PEACE AMBASSADORS INITIATIVE — Every Mon,

5 pm - 7 pm. Education North 4-106, U of A Campus. A youth group that promotes anti-racism & diversity workshops. Info: 425-4644 or [www.omnia.org](http://www.omnia.org)

#### SERRA CLUB OF CANADA — Prairie Chapter

works with, and is always seeking, ecologically and socially conscious individuals to build a strong grassroots movement in the Prairies. Info: [www.serraclub.ca/prairie](http://www.serraclub.ca/prairie)

#### UNESCO COALITION FOR PEACE — Meets on the

last Fri of every month, 3 pm. Boyle McCauley Health Centre, 2nd Fl Boardroom, 10628-96 St, Info: 927-5566

#### UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION —

RACISM: *Humanities*, Centr., Rm 1-7, U of A Campus — Every Thu, 4:30 - 6 pm. A public interest group working in education & organizing invites concerned public to attend coalition meetings.

#### VOA KHAMS POTLUCK DINNER — Dec 10, 5:30 pm. Riverdale Hall, 9231-12-100 Ave. Bring a vegan, vegetarian or non-dish to feed at least 8 people. festive attire & decorations are encouraged. Members \$2, non-members \$3.

#### WOMEN IN BLACK Stratcona Farmer's Market,

83 Ave. & 103 St — First & third Sat of every month, 10 - 11 am. An international women's peace and anti-racism group formed by Jewish & Arab women in 1988 opposes violence in all forms. All women, men and children invited to attend a silent vigil. Info: 435-7051.

#### WORKING FOR HUMAN RIGHTS: LOCAL WORDS & OVERSEAS ACTION — Dec 2, 9 pm. Starlite Room, 10030-102 St. Presented by journalists for Human Rights & Global Minds/Mentes del Mundo, perspectives by Rodovacano, Emecce E & the Hidden Gaze, Jesse Due Three. Proceeds go towards the JHM's January conference "Informed Ignorance: The Effects of Today's Global Media," and Global Minds' health & education work in Ecuador. Tickets \$12 in advance at Listen, Bloxbyrd, Megatunes, & Sub Imboco, \$15 at the door.

#### WHITE FOR RIGHTS WRITE-A-THON — Dec 10, 1 pm - 5 pm. Earth's General Store, 2nd fl, 1082-92 Whyte Ave. Amnesty International's Write-A-Thon for International Human Rights Day. Members of the local chapter will be in attendance to discuss issues, with letters to sign, free buttons, stickers and tattoos for participants. Info: 439-8725 or [www.omnesty.ca](http://www.omnesty.ca).

## HEALTH & WELLNESS

#### CANADIAN NATIVE FRIENDSHIP CENTRE —

11205-101 St, 479-1999 offers a range of services for members of the Native community, including a free community lunch every Friday at noon, employment & Public Health information, counseling referrals & one-on-one support, AADAC & Legal Aid referrals, and low cost or free beds, housing & clothing referrals. Mon

Basball 5 pm, Healing Circle 6 pm, Boxing 7 pm, Tae Boxing 5 pm, Volleyball 6 pm, sewing Circle 6 pm, Bead Work Class 5 pm, Cree class 6 pm, boxing 7 pm Fri Elders & Residency Day, Safe Using & Harm Reduction (last Fri of every month) 11 am, Tobacco Reduction 1 pm, Drop-in Night 6 pm

**CLUB LUU** Lululemon, 10544 - 82 Ave — Fun & innovative weekly activities to get you moving! Visit [www.lululemon.com](http://www.lululemon.com), call 435-9363 or email [whyte-community@lululemon.ca](mailto:whyte-community@lululemon.ca) to register.

**CCS WORKSHOPS** Catholic Social Services offices — Info: 420-6081

#### FAMILY CONSTELLATION — Every 2nd & 4th Wed,

7 pm. 10431-37 Ave. Feel burdened by life, family, feelings, or work? When will you live your own life? Find the best place for YOU. Info: 967-9162 or [www.constellationoncurents.ca](http://www.constellationoncurents.ca)

**YOUNG ADULTS MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS SUPPORT GROUP** Kness Metropolitan United Church, 8307 109 St — Every third Thu of the month. The Edmonton Chapter of the MS Society is offering a support group for people in their 20s and 30s who have MS and their family & friends. Info: 471-3034.

#### GENTLE YOGA Radha Yoga Centre 9946-87 Ave

— Weekly classes in small group settings and Sunday Sats (by donation). Enquire about schedule and fees. Info: 432-3363 or [www.india.org](http://www.india.org)

#### HIV NETWORK OF EDMONTON SOCIETY 300

11456 Jasper Ave 488-5742 - Hours: Mon, Wed & Thu, 9 am - 5 pm, Tue, 9 am - 7 pm & Fri, 9 am - 4 pm.

#### LIVING POSITIVE Suite 404, 10408-124 St.

— Every Tue, 7 pm - 9 pm. A confidential space where POZ people can discuss & share common issues of concern. A peer-driven, AIDS service organization, providing direct support to people living w/ HIV in Alberta. Info: 488-5768

#### MADELEINE SANAM FOUNDATION Faculté Sainte-Saint-Jean, 8406-91 St, Room 3-18 — Every third & fourth Sat of the month, 9 am - 5 pm. An organization for the emancipation and autonomy of African women through programs on economy, community radio and community health. Offers training on HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment and harm reduction in French, English and other African languages. Admission free for members, membership \$10. Call 490-7332 to register.

#### MASSAGE THERAPY — Every Thu, Nov-Feb. CDI College Massage Therapy students holding open public clinics. Relaxation massage \$20 hour

Info: call 463-7900

#### OPEN YOUR MIND 11403-101 St. — Gaden Samten Ling Tibetan Buddhist Meditation Society, Meditation and Buddhist teachings by our resident teacher, Tibetan Buddhist monk, Kushok Lobzang Dharmachakra. Beginners Tue, 7pm Intermediate Wed, 7pm. Advanced practices Sun, 11-1. Info: 479-2014 or [www.gaden-samten.org](http://www.gaden-samten.org)

#### ORGANIC ROOTS WORKSHOPS (8225-112 St.) — Info: 413-1730

#### RAJA YOGA MEDITATION — #208 10132-105

St. In association with the Brahma Kumaris World Spiritual Organization. For info on introductory classes or events go to [www.bkw.org](http://www.bkw.org) or call 425-1050

#### TRANQUILITY WORKSHOP 10502-70 Ave —

— Thur, 7 pm. Meditation w/ Tibetan traditional female lama, Ani Kunsang. Info: 633-6157

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Kness Metropolitan United Church, 8307 109 St — Every third Thu of the month. The Edmonton Chapter of the MS Society is offering a support group for people in their 20s and 30s who have MS and their family & friends. Info: 471-3034.

#### GERMAN FOR TRAVELLERS — Edmonton Seniors' Centre, 11117 Jasper Ave Classes for beginners/intermediate start Wed mornings at 9 am in January. Info: 637-6613.

#### LATIN DANCE LESSONS — On the Rocks, 11740 Jasper Ave. "Salsa in the City" every Tue, Latin dance lesson of 9 pm. Info: [www.salsachoo.com](http://www.salsachoo.com)

#### LEARNING CENTER LITERACY ASSOCIATION —

#200, 10116-105 Ave. The Learning Centre is looking for people to help adults develop their literacy & math skills. Volunteers & help others make positive changes for themselves and their communities. Info: Mary at 429-0675.

#### MARS HILL CENTRE — 8817-104 St, 435-0202

Offers classes and workshops on the recovery process, incorporating emotional, relational & spiritual dimensions. Registration is on a sliding scale, based on participant's income. Full details at [www.marshillcentre.com](http://www.marshillcentre.com).

#### MARTIAL ARTS ST. BRIDGET ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, 5825-93A Ave. — Classes offered by a small martial arts club. Info: 440-0171 or [www.jujutsu-sudmonton.com](http://www.jujutsu-sudmonton.com)

#### MEDIA MAG WORKSHOPS — Nino Haggerty Centre for the Arts, 9702-111 Ave. Dec 6

Notable Newsletters, create your first or improve your next print newsletter. Dec 13 Electrifying Electronic Newsletters, design, publish, distribute & maintain mailing lists for an e-newsletter.

#### MONYL NIGHT WOMEN'S GROUP — Build self-esteem and learn about women's resources in the community. For more information contact Marie Helene at the City of Edmonton, 496-5930.

#### POLST SECONDARY PREP WORKSHOP — Dec 2 &

Dec 9, 10 am - 4 pm, and Dec 12, 7-9 pm. Profiles Public Art Gallery, 19 Person St., St. Albert. For high school students planning to enrol in a post-secondary visual arts program after graduation. MFA Erin Schwab will guide participants through creating a portfolio submission. Info: 460-4310. \$25 per person.

#### YOGA CLASSES — Mon & Thu 5:45 pm, Wed 10 am. 7 week sessions \$70 or drop in \$12/class. Classes held in Sherwood Park. Info: 416-4244, or [www.balanced-wellness.ca](http://www.balanced-wellness.ca)

#### LUNCH BY THE BOOKS — Stanley A. Milner Library, Sir Winston Churchill Square A free noon-hour learning series presented by the U of A's Faculty of Arts & the Edmonton Public Library. Dec 7, 12:05 pm - 12:50 pm. Jeff Bonsu discusses "What can happen when Universities and communities work together?" Info: [www.ulweb.ultraarts.ca/lunch](http://www.ulweb.ultraarts.ca/lunch) bythebooks.ca

#### NAKED CYBER & ESPRESSO BAR 10354 Jasper Ave, 425-9730 — Every Thur open stage poetry readings.

#### OLIVE READING SERIES — Dec 12, 7 pm. Huilbert's Cafe, 7601-15 St. Reading by poet Sharon Thesen, open set to follow.

#### ONE IN A MILLION: READING & WRITING CIRCLE — Every Sat, 10 am, Stony Plain Library 112-6135-52 Ave, Stony Plain Info: 963-5440.

#### PHILOSOPHY CAFE — Edmonton Room (basement), Stanley A. Milner Library, Sir Winston Churchill Square. An ongoing series of Philosophy Cafes presented by University of Alberta academics.

Dec 2, 2 pm. Dr. Amy Schmitter discusses "Seeing Double: What if anything, do we need to know in order to appreciate Art?" Info: Bar at 496-1822.

#### POET'S HAVEN WEEKLY READING SERIES —

Every Mon, 7 pm. Upper Crust Cafe, 10909-86 Ave. Info: [owlwritersguild.ca](http://owlwritersguild.ca) or 422-8174.

#### POET'S INK WRITING EVENINGS — Castle Rock Pub, 570 St. Albert Rd. Writing evenings every Sun except long weekends.

#### REVEREND D. KAYE TURNING POINT 12840-109 Ave. — Every Sun, 11 am Seminar

#### SUBLERN VOICES LECTURE SERIES — The University of Alberta Political Science

shaded by a Bolero, holds up a knife that, with exposure time, has blurred into a dove.

I was totally depressed then. Those first photos were very solitary. Sherkarek's first show was strikingly different than her current one yet her subjects are the same here all and the locations and people close to her. There's still a sense of Prairie Gothic, but now it's turned to family portraits. We see playful framing, experiments with architecture, and humour more comic than sombre, like her feel blownup into clown like proportions.

But Jody's more interested in talking about the construction and productive limitations of her cameras.

I have two big camstitch box cameras. I used to use Telley tea containers, tiny ones that took eight second exposures—really clear. You can make a pinhole camera out of anything. There's also the earth camera. You dig a big hole in the ground, put in the photo paper. One guy did it with a bunch of pieces at once, and got all different angles of a tree. It was really beautiful!

THEA BOWERING

Department presents the 2006-07 speaker series, *Subaltern Voices: Speaking & Theorizing from the Disciplinary Margins*. Room 104-Tory building, U of A Campus. Dr. Emmanuel Chukwu Ezaz, Associate Professor of Philosophy at Dalhousie University, discusses "Diversity and the Languages of Reason."

T.A.L.E.S. STORYTELLING CIRCLE — Second Fri of every month Sep-Jun City Arts Centre, 10943-84 Ave. Come to share stories or just to listen.

\$3 fee, first visit free. Info: 433-2932.

## LEARNING

#### AFRICAN DANCE CLASSES — Movements: The Afrik Caribbean Dance Ensemble holds classes conveniently located on Jasper Ave. Info: 415-5211 or [www.movementclasses.com](http://www.movementclasses.com)

#### BLOWTRIKI — Dec 3, 4 pm - 6 pm 5:30 pm - 9 pm. Crown Plaza Hotel, 10117 Bellamy St. Gather your girlfriends and join Pleasure Plus for a workshop of hand & oral sex techniques & pleasure plus ideas in tasteful presentation. \$40 per person. Info: call Karen at 489-4567 or visit [www.pleasureplus.ca](http://www.pleasureplus.ca)

#### CUBAN SALSA LESSONS — Every Tue, 8 pm, Free Buddha, 1201-82 Ave.

#### DROP-IN ART CLASSES — Profibus Public Art Gallery, 19 Person St., St. Albert. Every 2nd

Thu, \$10 per class, includes materials. Info: for upcoming classes call Glenda at 460-4310 or email [chelglen@telus.net](mailto:chelglen@telus.net)

#### FAVA WORKSHOPS — FAVA offers a range of filmmaking workshops this fall, including documentary storytelling, documentary post-production & 1 & 6mm filmmaking basics. Details at [www.fava.ca](http://www.fava.ca)

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#### LGBT SENIORS DROP IN — Every Thu, 8 pm, Pride Centre (9540-111 Ave) Info: 488-3234

#### ILLUSIONS SOCIAL CLUB — The Root, 10345-100 Ave — Second Thu of each month. Crossdressing, transsexuals, friends & supporters meet till

387-3343 or go to [groups.yahoo.com/group/edmonton](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/edmonton)

#### COCAINE ANONYMOUS MEETING — Every

7 pm. Pride Centre (9540-111 Ave) CA Hotline: 425-2715.

#### FREE TO VOLLEYBALL Amryscoy Academy Airport Rd. — Every Thu, 8 pm - 10 pm intermediate players, 8 pm - 10 pm

players, intermediate level. Coaching & coaching provided. Info: Alex at 424-9984 or [lipside@telus.net](http://lipside@telus.net) Recreational night every Wed, all levels welcome.

#### GYAWIRE CISR 85-5 — 6 pm Edmonton's first radio show about gay, lesbian, bisexual & transgendered lives. Featuring news, talk, international features and community even

#### HIV POSITIVE GLAT SUPPORT GROUP — Every

Mon & Thu, 7 pm - 9 pm. Pride Centre (9540-111 Ave) Drop-in support group facilitated by HIV Edmonton.

#### TRANS SUPPORT GROUP Pride Centre (9540-111 Ave)

Ave — Last Fri, every month, 7 pm. Trans Alliance, dinner & social evening for tran-

sified & questioning people, family & friends. Info: 718-1412 or [transalliance@shaw.ca](http://transalliance@shaw.ca)

#### MAKING WAVES SWIMMING CLUB —

Recreational & competitive swimming. Practices every Tue & Thu. Soc. practice, 7 pm

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Practice every



# listings

PHONE: 430-9003 FAX: 432-1102 EMAIL: info@see.greatwest.ca

**THE COMIC STRIP WEM 483-3999 — Nov 30-Dec 2**  
 2 Reno Collier w/ Lars Calloue, Rick Bronson & Shawn Gramick. Men Hit or Miss Monday. Omourists compete for audience approval Tue. Alternative Comedy night, hypnotist, magicians & street performers. Info: www.thecomicstrip.co.  
**YUK YUKS 66 St. & 137 Ave, Londonerry Mall — Wed**  
 Wed Pro Am Comedy Jam. Info: 481-9857

## ALT CINEMA

**A COMMON COMPASSION: AIDS FILM WEEKEND**  
 Dec 1-4, Metro Cinema, Zeidler Hall, Citadel Theatre Complex, 9828-101A Ave. In honor of World AIDS Day on Dec 1, and in partnership with HIV Edmonton and the Aidsmbazzi.

Children's Project. Metro Cinema presents a weekend of films about the global AIDS pandemic. Tickets \$6 in advance, or regular Metro prices of the door. Contact Aidsmbazzi ([aidsmbazzi.org](http://aidsmbazzi.org)) about advance tickets for Fri & Sun, and HIV Edmonton ([hivedmonton.com](http://hivedmonton.com)) about advance tickets for Sat & Mon, or for more information.

**A CLOSER WALK — Fri, 9 pm Sun, 7 pm** Metro Cinema, Zeidler Hall, Citadel Theatre Complex, 9828-101A Ave. Conceived by the late Jonathan Mann, architect of the WHO's response to AIDS. The film explores the intricate relationship between health, dignity, and human rights, and shows how the harsh realities of the AIDS pandemic, featuring interviews with Dr. Daniel Lobo, Kofi Annan, and Bonni Directed written, and produced by Oscar nominee Robert

### Bilheimer

#### FIGHT BACK, RIGHT AIDS: 15 YEARS OF ACT UP

— Sat, 9 pm Mon, 7 pm. Metro Cinema, Zeidler Hall, Citadel Theatre Complex, 9828-101A Ave. In 1987, the first AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power (ACT UP) event shut down Wall Street. In the 15 years since the protest, ACT UP has been at the forefront of public AIDS awareness. Documentary directed by ACT UP member and AIDS video activist James Wentz. Showing with *The Bicycle Fighting AIDS* and *Community Medicine*. Pax Chingwada's bicycle takes him to over 200 lodges in southern Africa, chronicling his journeys as he battles AIDS at the grassroots. Directed by Kotsina Craxx.

**LIVING WITH SLIM — Fri, 7 pm Sun, 9 pm** Metro Cinema, Zeidler Hall, Citadel Theatre Complex,

9828-101A Ave. In many African countries, HIV/AIDS is called "Slim." In this film seven African children talk about what it's like to be HIV positive. Directed by Sam Kauffman. Showing with *Their Brothers' Keepers: Orphaned by AIDS*, directed by Catherine Mullins. The millions of children whose parents have died of AIDS often have no one to grieve, as they are thrust into the role of parent to their siblings.

**THE EVENT — Sat, 7 pm Mon, 9 pm** Metro Cinema, Zeidler Hall, Citadel Theatre Complex, 9828-101A Ave. Nick (Parker Posey) is a district attorney investigating several deaths in the gay community of New York City's Chelsea District. It seems that many AIDS sufferers have died under similar mysterious circumstances, with each case suggesting assisted suicide.

Directed by Thom Fitzgerald.

**A MOMENT WITH YOU — Dec 1, 7 pm**, Lecture 11, U of A campus. Presented by Young Fu Productions. Screening to be followed by meet & greet with producers. Tickets \$10 or at SU info booths. Info: [yfp.ca](http://yfp.ca) or [www.uafp.ca](http://www.uafp.ca).

**\*WELCOME TO THE REEL WORLD\* FILM SERIES — CAB 243, U of A campus. Film series presented by U of A International. For details on films in the series see [www.uafp.ca](http://www.uafp.ca). Screenings are free of charge.**

## West Edmonton Mall

GREATWEST CORPORATION

## SHOWTIMES DECEMBER 1-7, 2006

### GARNEAU

8172 109 STREET • 433-0728

#### MANUFACTURED LANDSCAPES

Mon 7:00, 9:00 Sat & Sun matinees 2:00

### PRINCESS

10332 87 AVENUE • 433-0728

#### TRUE VERSUS JOHN LEWIS

Mon 7:00, 9:00 Sat & Sun matinees 2:00

### RABEL

Mighty 5:00, 9:30 Sat & Sun matinees 2:00

Matinees, not recommended for children

### MAGIC LANTERN CINEMA

Tue 7:00, Matinee, Screen Guru • 967-7332

#### HAPPY FEET

Mon 7:00, 9:15 Sat & Sun matinees 1:00, 3:15

### METRO CINEMA

9828-101A AVENUE (ZEIDLER HALL, CITADEL THEATRE) • 425-9712

#### A COMMON COMPASSION: AIDS FILM WEEKEND

Dec 1-4, Metro Cinema, Zeidler Hall, Citadel

### A CLOSER WALK

Fri 7 pm Sat, Sun 8:30, 10:30

#### FIGHT BACK, RIGHT AIDS: 15 YEARS OF ACT UP

Fri 7 pm Sat, Sun 8:30

#### LEAVING WITHE SAMI

Mon 7:00, 9:30 Sat & Sun 10:30

#### THE EVENTS

Sat 7:00, Mon 9:00

### GRANDIN THEATRES

GRANDIN THEATRE, ST. WILFRID CHURCH ST., ST. ALBERT • 458-9827

#### STRANGER THAN FICTION

Dec 5, 7:30

#### SANTA CLAUSE 3: THE ESCAPE CLAUSE

Dec 10, 3:15, 5:30, 7:00, 9:30

### DECK THE HALLS

Dec 5, 7:00, 9:30 Sat & Sun 10:30

#### FLUSHED AWAY

Dec 6, 7:00, 9:30 Sat & Sun 10:30

### BORAT

Dec 6, 9:45, 11:45 Sat & Sun 10:30

#### THE MATIVITY STORY

Dec 11, 7:30, 9:30 Sat & Sun 10:30

### PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: DEAD MAN'S CHEST

Dec 12, 7:00, 9:30 Sat & Sun 10:30

#### PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: MASTERS OF THE UNIVERSE

Dec 13, 7:00, 9:30 Sat & Sun 10:30

### LESLIE CINEMAS

490 1105 80th Street, St. Albert • 416-9899

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### CINEPLEX ODEON

CINEPLEX ODEON CINEMAGUI

#### NEW WEST MALL #

444 100 109 Street, NW • 416-9899

#### PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: MASTERS OF THE UNIVERSE

Dec 13, 7:00, 9:30 Sat & Sun 10:30

### THE ILLUSIONIST

Dec 14, 7:00, 9:30 Sat & Sun 10:30

#### MAT'S FEARS

Dec 14, 7:00, 9:30 Sat & Sun 10:30

#### PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: DEAD MAN'S CHEST

Dec 15, 7:00, 9:30 Sat & Sun 10:30

#### CATCH A FIRE

Dec 14, 7:00, 9:30 Sat & Sun 10:30

#### PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: DEAD MAN'S CHEST

Dec 15, 7:00, 9:30 Sat & Sun 10:30

#### PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: MASTERS OF THE UNIVERSE

Dec 16, 7:00, 9:30 Sat & Sun 10:30

#### EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

Dec 16, 7:00, 9:30 Sat & Sun 10:30

### PLAYBOY JAMAICA

Dec 16, 7:00, 9:30 Sat & Sun 10:30

#### THE SANTA CLAUSE 3: THE ESCAPE CLAUSE

Dec 16, 7:00, 9:30 Sat & Sun 10:30

#### BLOOD DIAMOND

Dec 16, 7:00, 9:30 Sat & Sun 10:30

#### THE GOLDBLUM

Dec 16, 7:00, 9:30 Sat & Sun 10:30

#### LET'S GO TO PRISON

Dec 16, 7:00, 9:30 Sat & Sun 10:30

### EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

Dec 17, 7:00, 9:30 Sat & Sun 10:30

#### PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: MASTERS OF THE UNIVERSE

Dec 18, 7:00, 9:30 Sat & Sun 10:30

#### THE GOLDBLUM

Dec 18, 7:00, 9:30 Sat & Sun 10:30

#### PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: DEAD MAN'S CHEST

Dec 19, 7:00, 9:30 Sat & Sun 10:30

#### PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: MASTERS OF THE UNIVERSE

Dec 20, 7:00, 9:30 Sat & Sun 10:30

### THE GOLDBLUM

Dec 20, 7:00, 9:30 Sat & Sun 10:30

#### PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: DEAD MAN'S CHEST

Dec 21, 7:00, 9:30 Sat & Sun 10:30

#### PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: MASTERS OF THE UNIVERSE

Dec 22, 7:00, 9:30 Sat & Sun 10:30

### PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: DEAD MAN'S CHEST

Dec 23, 7:00, 9:30 Sat & Sun 10:30

#### PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: MASTERS OF THE UNIVERSE

Dec 24, 7:00, 9:30 Sat & Sun 10:30

### PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: DEAD MAN'S CHEST

Dec 25, 7:00, 9:30 Sat & Sun 10:30

#### PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: MASTERS OF THE UNIVERSE

Dec 26, 7:00, 9:30 Sat & Sun 10:30

### PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: DEAD MAN'S CHEST

Dec 27, 7:00, 9:30 Sat & Sun 10:30

#### PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: MASTERS OF THE UNIVERSE

Dec 28, 7:00, 9:30 Sat & Sun 10:30

### PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: DEAD MAN'S CHEST

Dec 29, 7:00, 9:30 Sat & Sun 10:30

#### PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: MASTERS OF THE UNIVERSE

Dec 30, 7:00, 9:30 Sat & Sun 10:30

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Dec 31, 7:00, 9:30 Sat & Sun 10:30

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Dec 31, 7:00, 9:30 Sat & Sun 10



# classified

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## TRAVEL/VACATION

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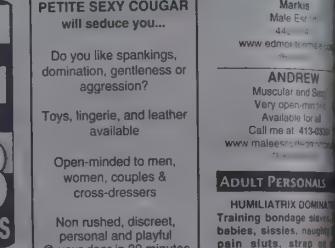
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## Merry XXXmas

The Cone: pleasure pylon just one gift idea

FOR THE NAUGHTY ONES ON YOUR LIST, some XXXmas gift suggestions from my favourite Canadian toy stores.

**CHANELLE GALLANT AND CARLYLE JANSEN**

Good For Her, Toronto

([www.goodforher.com](http://www.goodforher.com))

Candida Royalle's Ideal (\$68)

Can the Hitachi Magic Wand be improved upon? The ideal is a quieter, cordless, ergonomic and rechargeable vibrator that runs for 90 minutes before recharging. Chemistry Vol I (\$40)

We are sooooo in love with this incredibly hot and intimate "behind the scenes" style experiment in which adult stars like Mr. Marcus and Dana DeArmond have unscripted sex. No bad "porn acting," no degradation stunts. Just raw emotions, spontaneous sex, explosive orgasms and REAL chemistry.

**SHELLEY TAYLOR**

Venus Envy, Halifax, Ottawa

([venusenvy.ca](http://venusenvy.ca))

Lucky 7 Vibe from Vibratex (\$24.95)

This little wireless number has seven functions in a waterproof and super quiet bullet. Made in Japan for the folks at Vibratex, you know it's going to last well into the new year.

Nea by Lelo (\$99.95)

The Nea, made by the Swedish company Lelo, is a quiet, ergonomically designed

## MY MESSY BEDROOM

JOSEY VOGELS

and ornate vibrator with a porcelain-like finish in icy blue or shiny black. And bonus, it's rechargeable! Plug it in, charge it up and you have the freedom of a battery operated, cordless vibe with the power source of a plug-in.

Comes with gift box, charger, manual and a one-year Lelo warranty.

**ANDREA DOBBS**

Womyn's Ware, Vancouver ([womynsware.com](http://womynsware.com))

Love Rings (\$24.85)

Ring in the season with The Fun Factory's (a playful, high quality German sex toy manufacturer) answer to the cock ring. A pliable silicone ring that is worn around the shaft of the penis can be worn around both the testicles and the shaft. Easy to clean, easy to stretch, easy on the wallet. Pillow Talk: The Sensual Relationship Game (\$69.85)

A "snakes and ladders" inspired board game that is designed to challenge players and improve your sexual communication skills. With '80s retro Graphica/Anime

style illustrations, couples of all orientations have the opportunity to discuss deep feelings and desires with the safety of a past card (no explanation needed to pass) for when you just can't go there. The game includes two couples' contracts that set out some boundaries before you begin. Pillow Talk has made a genuine effort to push beyond the "massage and snuggle" options many other games focus on.

Iris (\$189.95)

Another in the stunning new family of vibes from Lelo, this beautifully sculpted vibe oozes luxury and prestige. But it doesn't just look good. A silicone exterior with a medical grade ABS plastic handle to provide lots of reach to achieve just the right angle and pressure. With five patterns of vibration, the rechargeable toy also has the power of a plug-in with the freedom of a rechargeable toy.

**GILL LAMON**

Come As You Are, Toronto ([comeasy-ware.com](http://comeasy-ware.com))

Le Joue (\$35.00)

One of a new generation of high-end vibes, Le Joue is the most clever vibrator on the planet. The pleasure pad surface bubbles, gyrates, moves up and down, and rotates round and round, according to your command, as programmed through the toy's microprocessor. Le Joue also offers a teledildonic experience through its Pleasurewave software (included) which allows you to upload your "groove patterns" to

jejoue.com to share with friends, lovers, and strangers.

Monkey Rocker (\$85.00)

Half sex machine, and half sex furniture, the Monkey Rocker is sure to rock your boat. Featuring smooth and silent operation, the Monkey Rocker is powered by you and even the most gentle movement of the handle will get you rocking.

Groovy Q Dirty Linens (DL) Lounge Pants (\$38) and Bed Sheets (\$16.50)

Comfy and sexy, the DL lounge pants and 200-thread count bed sheets feature beautiful toile patterns with Tom of Finland and '50s pin-up-inspired illustrations.

Pink 4 oz (\$28)

Formulated with Dimethicone, the highest grade of silicone, Vitamin E and Aloe Vera, Pink provides a clean, fresh, moisturizing approach to personal lubrication that reduces the chance of infection or allergic reactions. Pink's elegant hand-blown Italian glass bottle fits right in with other items on your dressing table or bathroom counter.

**BRENDA**

Traveling Tickle Trunk, Edmonton ([travelingtickletrunk.com](http://travelingtickletrunk.com))

The Bondage BedSheet Kit (\$234)

Comes with a fitted sheet, four velcro pads, and four soft cuffs which clip onto the Velcro pads, which can be placed anywhere. The sheet is washable and comes in Queen or King size (the Queen will fit a double).

Miss Bliss Vibrator (\$69)

This silicone vibrator has a curved shaft and a second smaller shaft with two small vibrating fingers for out-of-this-world clitoral stimulation. So versatile, it can be inserted vaginally or orally, used externally, fits over a penis or made into a circular base provides hands-free stimulation of the entire vulva including the vaginal opening.

shape for an amazing vibrating handjob. Chocolate Aphrodisiac Gift Set (\$34)

Kit contains a beautiful brown sugar scented for soft touchable skin, chocolate bath oil for a sensual bath and a solid white chocolate massage bar for a heavenly massage.

**AND FINALLY**

My pics...

**Liberator Shapes: The Wedge** (\$85 or \$100 for plus-size lovers), The Ramp (\$100-\$180 depending on size, comes in plus-size and extra tall), Fascinator Shag Throne (\$85; [liberatorshapes.com](http://liberatorshapes.com))

I must be getting lazy in my old age, because both of my XXXmas gift suggestions make getting off a whole lot less work. The velvety-soft but firm shapes take the strain of sex by propping and supporting you or your partner's body in various sexual positions. The shapes also make good penises, even better. Slipping "The Wedge" under her bum in the Missionary position lets her pelvis upward for easier entry and greater spot contact. Leaning over "The Ramp" supports her upper body while doing a doggie style. Add to the luxury and privacy of your bedding and furniture by tossing down the machine-washable Shag Throne (one side's fuzzy faux fur, the other silly satin).

**The Cone** (\$135)

Literally sit and relax on this unique bright pink toy shaped like well, a cone. Think it like sitting on a cushy, short pylon with 16 varieties of vibration and a quick release "orgasm" button. Unlike penile vibrators, The Cone's unique shape which is about 8 inches in diameter at the base provides hands-free stimulation of the entire vulva including the vaginal opening.

the back

## Butts: no ifs or ands

Prospective pegger must be committed

A SMOKER AND MY PARTNER IS A nonsmoker. He says his face goes numb when I give him head. His theory is that the penis is permeable and is absorbing nicotine in my saliva. It's a good theory, but it's only his face that goes numb—my cheeks and lips, not his whole head or his stick head. He really enjoys it so it's not a problem. I'm just curious whether or not that's right.

### Not Underestimating My Blowjobs

I know it's the faintest idea what's happening with your boyfriend's face, NUMB, but I've seen pictures of what's happening to your lungs. My advice: Quit smoking—and if your boyfriend's facial numbness during sex subsides, well, then you're right about the nicotine. Don't want to quit smoking? Then your boyfriend should find some other mouth to stuff his junk into.

I'm sorry if that answer wasn't very helpful. Or sympathetic. But smoking? Ick. Stop already. Yuck. Gross. Blech.

Moving on, I was all set to do a really lame column this week on cuckolding—when a straight man watches, or is told about, another man having sex with his wife or girlfriend—when one of my coworkers walked in with a pan of pumpkin pie. She told us that the cake was a complete failure as a drug; she had eaten two slices the night before and didn't get high off it. It was, however, pretty tasty cake, so she brought it in to work to share with everybody.

Well, it seems that my coworker's tolerance for THC is lots higher than mine. I had a little slice of cake—maybe two—and then it was so fucking baked I can hardly see straight. I shouldn't be writing a column about this. I'm not actually taking my advice—but the deadlines are tight and no editor will accept performance-de-hancing drugs as an excuse for missing one. So I set aside the serious cuckolding issue until next week and scrounged up a few questions that, I'm afraid, I can't screw up. Or can I?

I am an 18-year-old Canadian gal, I feel compelled to tell you that you rock. Or to forgive me if this is an asinine question (how often do you hear that?); how do I put it tactfully to my friend of 1.5 years (and going strong!) that I think I want to do him in a strap-on, in part because he's pretty from things he's said that he'd pretty even have a way to put it non-bluntly. I would rather suggest it subtly if I can. Information regarding obtaining said, such as prices, sizes, etc., would be much appreciated.

Timid in Toronto

I think you want to do him in the butt strap-on? Well, TIT, I think I speak for all straight men everywhere when I say this: No boy is going to offer up his butt to a girl who isn't completely certain about his ass is something she really, positively wants to do. Not unless she's contemplating, TIT, not unless she's muddled over. Because the straight boy wants to hear once again, lubed up, and white knuckled sides of the mattress is... um, I guess not..."

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## SAVAGE LOVE

DAN SAVAGE

Actually, that's the second-to-last thing he wants to hear. The very last thing he wants to hear is, "I didn't know there would be so much blood."

So before you broach the subject, TIT, you're going to need to commit. You need to present this idea to him with so much passion and fire that he understands that you wanna, that you gotta, fuck that beautiful little ass of his. Can you accomplish this while being tactful, non-blunt, and subtle? No, no, and no. There simply isn't a tactful, non-blunt, subtle way to tell a man—any man, porn star or virgin, gay or straight—that you want fuck his ass.

There is no comforting euphemism, no way to soften the blow. It would be easier to drop "I'm pregnant" or "You have leukemia" or "That was my dad who got arrested for fucking a deer dead by the side of the road" into a casual conversation. You're just going to have to let him have it, TIT, if you ever want to let him have it.

As for pegging supplies and equipment, check out the goods at these fine websites: [www.babeland.com](http://www.babeland.com), [www.goodvibes.com](http://www.goodvibes.com), [www.grandopening.com](http://www.grandopening.com), [www.comeawayware.com](http://www.comeawayware.com), [www.venusenvy.ca](http://www.venusenvy.ca), and [www.worxynware.com](http://www.worxynware.com).

I am a huge fan and never thought that I would be writing you a letter like this. But how can you denounce the actions of the Craigslist asshole who exposed all of those kinky fellas a few months back, then turn around and praise the actions of the male prostitute who outed Ted Haggard?

Don't get me wrong, I think Haggard is a hypocritical douchebag. But isn't what the prostitute did worse than what the Craigslist asshole did, since sex workers are paid as much for privacy as they are for sex?

Don't Be A Hypocrite, Dan

The crucial difference between the Craigslist asshole and Mike Jones, the escort who outed Haggard, is this: CLA outed men who were just minding their own kinky business and looking for people who shared their kinks.

They were not powerful political or religious figures who were indulging in kinky sex while at the same time pushing laws that stripped other kinky folks of their right to wed, adopt, be free from harassment, etc. The men the CLA outed were not lower-

won't see her again. Any suggestions on how I can approach this without sounding like an asshole?

### Clueless On The Job

Nope.

All unwelcome advances are made by assholes, COTJ, while all welcome advances are made by non-assholes. But since it is the reaction of the advanced-upon that determines asshole status (i.e., if she wants to fuck you then you're not an asshole), and since you can't know if an advance is unwelcome until after you've made it, you have to risk sounding like an asshole or you'll never get laid.

No one ever gets laid without sounding like an asshole every once in a while. So

are you an asshole? There's only one way to find out: Hit on her.

Be respectful and upbeat about it, and it at an appropriate moment (after-work drinks?), and wait until she's no longer employed at the place where you work, particularly if she works under you.

But you're going to have to risk sounding like an asshole, COTJ, or you'll never get laid.

A new Savage Love podcast is available for download every Tuesday at [www.thestranger.com/savage](http://www.thestranger.com/savage). [mail@savagelove.net](mailto:mail@savagelove.net)

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